

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Human Services and Housing

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 04/20/15

Action: Do Pass As Amended And Be Printed Engrossed. Refer To Rules, Then Ways And Means By Prior Reference.

Meeting Dates: 04/15, 04/17, 04/20

Vote:

Yeas: 9 - Buehler, Evans, Gallegos, Hayden, Keny-Guyer, Parrish, Piluso, Stark, Taylor

Prepared By: Robyn Johnson, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) to establish Housing First pilot program in specified geographic areas. Directs OHCS to obtain study on cost of homelessness. Establishes Housing First Pilot Project Fund. Appropriates \$2 million dollars from General Fund for implementation. Requires report to legislature during 2017 regular session. Sunsets June 30, 2017. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Systems of care in housing settings
- Homelessness in Eugene and Albany
- Addressing addiction and addiction services in a housing setting

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Defines homelessness. Defines system of care. Outlines necessary services in pilot. Appropriates \$2 million General Fund dollars.

BACKGROUND:

“Housing First” is a model for addressing homelessness that provides both housing and affiliated wrap-around services concurrently. It offers stable housing to individuals who are working to address addiction, among other health issues. It is regarded as more fiscally efficient and leads to better outcomes than other assistance models that require individuals to be clean and sober as a prior condition to receiving assistance.

House Bill 3420-A appropriates \$2 million to Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) to administer a Housing First pilot program in certain areas. It also requires OHCS to obtain a study on the cost of homelessness and report to the legislature in 2017.