

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 05/13/15

Action: Do Pass With Amendments To The A-Eng Measure And Requesting Subsequent Referral To Ways And Means Be Rescinded. (Printed B-Eng.)

Meeting Dates: 05/13

Vote:

Yeas: 5 - Knopp, Kruse, Monnes Anderson, Shields, Steiner Hayward

Prepared By: Zena Rockowitz, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to establish the Oregon Health Information Technology Program. Authorizes OHA to provide optional health information technology (HIT) services to support statewide healthcare and establish fees to cover cost of expanding HIT services. Allows OHA to participate in or fund HIT partnerships or collaborative. Establishes the Health Information Technology Oversight Council (Council) under the Oregon Health Policy Board (OHPB), changes appointment authority from the Governor to the OHPB, and modifies the role of the Council to provide strategic and policy recommendations. Expands OHA scope to include certain activities to support the Oregon HIT program. Clarifies procurement procedures. Requires that OHA submit annual report to the Legislative Assembly. Requires Department of Administrative Services to procure or supervise procurement of information technology for OHA. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Health information technology and its use in the healthcare coordination
- Ability to continue work beyond Oregon Health Authority programs
- Investments for providers and communities who lack access to technology
- Flexibility for partnerships and collaboratives
- Ability to analyze information to manage and identify populations
- Authority to charge fees to cover the cost of operating secure messaging for entities that face barriers to health information exchange and a provider directory
- Alignment with Senate Bill 7 (2015) to ensure Department of Administrative Services has authority over information technology contracting

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Removes Oregon Health Authority (OHA) exemption to require Department of Administrative Services to procure or supervise procurement of OHA's information technology.

BACKGROUND:

The Office of Health Information and Technology (OHIT) was established in 2011 as part of the Oregon Health Authority to support the adoption of electronic health records, the secure exchange of health information and to support the use of initiatives throughout the state. OHIT is a resource for both state programs and other public and private users of health information, provides planning, coordination, policy analysis and the development of public/private partnerships. Additionally, OHIT staffs the Governor-appointed Health Information Technology Oversight Council.