

Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2015 Regular Session
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
House Committee On Health Care

****CORRECTED****

MEASURE: SB 901 B
CARRIER: Rep. Lively

Fiscal: No Fiscal Impact
Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 05/29/15

Action: Do Pass As Amended And Be Printed Engrossed.

Meeting Dates: 05/06, 05/29

Vote:

Yeas: 9 - Buehler, Clem, Greenlick, Hayden, Kennemer, Keny-Guyer, Lively, Nosse, Weidner

Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires provider that bills insurer for covered medical, mental or substance use disorder health services to be reimbursed directly by insurer. Adds exemption for disability type of payor (AFLAC) (ORS 743.730). Applies to reimbursements on claims on or after January 1, 2017.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Reimbursement checks not going to providers
- Patients confused with multiple providers
- Checks going to policy holder and not the patient's provider
- Providers unable to obtain the money from the patient
- Proposed amendments

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Adds exemption for disability type of payor (AFLAC) (ORS 743.730) and substance use disorder and mental health services as covered services by insurers.

BACKGROUND:

Under Oregon law, a group health insurance policy may, on the request of a policyholder, provide reimbursement directly to hospital or person receiving services. In the case of ambulatory surgical centers, an insurer or a third-party administrator for a self-insured plan may reimburse out-of-network centers for services covered under the policy by reimbursing the center directly or reimbursing the center and beneficiary. When insurance companies do not have contracts with health care facilities, insurers will send reimbursement for provided services directly to patients.

When the provider or hospital that delivered the health care services does not receive the payment, it is reported that administrative staff spend time trying to retrieve the payment and often do not receive them. This is reportedly more complicated when there are multiple providers rendering services.