SB 368 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

Prepared By: Oliver Droppers, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Creates a new definition for individuals that are in the custody of a local juvenile justice system. Requires commercial insurance carriers to reimburse a local municipality for the cost of medical services provided to an insured juvenile in a detention facility. Requires insurance carriers to accept credentials of a health care provider who is an employee or contractor of a detention facility unless insurer provides written notice.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued. FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The vast majority of individuals that come into contact with the justice system are not incarcerated. In 2008, 2.11 million people under age 18 were arrested. A census in the same year showed that only 81,000 juvenile offenders were incarcerated. Studies estimate that between 50 and 75 percent of youth detained or incarcerated in the criminal justice system have a mental health or substance use disorder, and a substantial portion have a serious mental health condition.

In Oregon, youth who are in the custody of local authority are often placed in short-term detention facilities that provide temporary care for juveniles in custody, pending court disposition, awaiting placement elsewhere, or are awaiting transfer to another jurisdiction. Youth placed in detention centers receive medically necessary care provided by the state, often by contracted health care providers (i.e. physicians, dentists, mental health professionals). Juveniles that are in the custody of local authority, including pre-adjudicated youth are often eligible for or enrolled in publicly funded health insurance such as Medicaid, or insured by a commercial health plan. However, medical services provided by Oregon's 11 detention facilities are the financial responsibility of the local municipality.

Senate bill 368 requires commercial health plans to reimburse for services provided to individuals in custody awaiting adjudication by a local juvenile court.