

SB 859 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 3/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires licensed physicians that practice oncology to discuss fertility risks with adolescent oncology patients. Requires physicians treating adolescent oncology patients to obtain consent from the patient's parent or legal guardian before discussing fertility options. Requires the Oregon Medical Board (OMB) to adopt rules to implement provisions of the bill.

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:

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- Defines iatrogenic infertility.
- Require health plans to cover examinations and treatments of iatrogenic infertility.

BACKGROUND:

According to the American Cancer Society (ACS), cancer and its treatment can affect fertility in women and men. The effect of cancer on a person's fertility depends on a range of factors that include age, overall health, type of cancer, and treatment. Children and young adults diagnosed with cancer who receives treatment are at an increased risk of infertility as a result of specific cancer treatments. Chemotherapy, radiation therapy or surgery can destroy an adolescent's eggs or damage reproductive organs and affect a person's ability to have children when they become adults. This outcome is an example of iatrogenic infertility: an unintended consequence or side effect of cancer treatment in pediatric patients.

In recent years, due to advances in medicine, adolescent oncology patients now have fertility preservation options available. The options can include egg freezing, ovarian transposition, and experimental treatments. Senate Bill 859 would require oncologists in Oregon to discuss fertility preservation options with adolescents diagnosed with cancer before receiving certain cancer treatments.