

HB 2723 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 4/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Health Evidence Review Commission (HERC) to review the therapeutic and clinical effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of hippotherapy. Requires HERC to submit a report to legislative committees no later than December 31, 2017. Sunsets January 2, 2019. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact.

Revenue: No revenue impact.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon's Health Evidence Review Commission reviews clinical evidence to guide the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) in making benefit-related decisions for its health plans. Its main products are the Prioritized List of Health Services (searchable tool), used by the Legislative Assembly to guide funding decisions for the Oregon Health Plan (the state's Medicaid program), and evidence-based reports on specific topics of interest to Oregon health payers and providers as well as members of the public. The Commission consists of 13 Governor-appointed and senate-confirmed volunteer members.

The American Hippotherapy Association defines hippotherapy as the method by which occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech-language pathology professionals use evidence-based practice and clinical reasoning in the purposeful manipulation of equine movement to engage sensory, neuromotor, and cognitive systems to achieve functional outcomes. In conjunction with the equine environment and other treatment strategies, hippotherapy can be part of a patient's integrated plan of care.