

**HB 2304 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On Health Care**

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**Prepared By:** Oliver Droppers, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 4/13

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Adds Peer Support Specialists, which includes Family Support and Youth Support Specialists, to the definition of Peer Wellness Specialists. Defines Family Support and Youth Support Specialists. Directs Oregon Health Authority to adopt qualification criteria.

*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:**

-3 Adds certified advocate to definition of traditional health worker.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Traditional Health Workers Commission is housed in the Oregon Health Authority's (OHA) Office of Equity and Inclusion. The Commission promotes the role, engagement and utilization of the traditional health workforce, which includes Community Health Workers, Peer Wellness Specialists, Personal Health Navigators, Peer Support Specialists and Doulas, in the integrated and coordinated healthcare delivery system. The 19-member Commission advises and makes recommendations to OHA on the development, implementation and sustainability of the program.

House Bill 2304 updates the definition of Peer Support Specialist and Youth Support Specialist and adds these positions to the list of Traditional Health Workers that specialize in both Peer and Youth Support Services.