

SB 1046 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 4/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes Health Care for All Oregon Board. Requires the board to develop, implement and oversee a statewide health coverage plan to be administered by Oregon Health Authority (OHA). Establishes duties and responsibilities of the board. Specifies the criteria for the board to use in designing health care funded by the plan. Specifies the types of health services to be covered. Establishes the Health Care for All Oregon Fund. Creates the Office of Health Care for All Oregon Ombudsman. Establishes regional planning boards to oversee allocation of health care resources. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

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:

In recent years, several states have explored comprehensive reform of their health care system. For example, Colorado, California and Vermont have proposed legislation to establish a single-payer health system. Such models often propose creating a single public or quasi-public entity that is responsible for financing health care for residents. These reform proposals are aimed at addressing consumer affordability, expanding coverage to the uninsured, better controlling costs, and reducing administrative costs and complexity attributed to the current U.S. health care system. Past national and state reform efforts designed to achieve universal coverage such as creating national health insurance have not been successful.

In Oregon, House Bill 3260 (2013) required the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to conduct a study to examine options for a statewide single-payer model for financing health care that is decoupled from employment. In January 2017, OHA released the results of the study conducted by the RAND Corporation. The purpose of the study is to inform ongoing efforts to create a single-payer system in Oregon. House Bill 1046 establishes a statewide health care coverage program for all Oregon residents.