

**HB 2751 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On Health Care**

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

**Meeting Dates:** 5/2

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Allows occupational therapists to participate in the Primary Care Loan Repayment Program. Extends the sunset of the provider loan repayment program to January 2, 2020. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

*FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact.*

*REVENUE: No revenue impact.*

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Primary Care Loan Repayment Program (PCLRP) was established by the Oregon Legislative Assembly to provide loan repayment to primary care clinicians who serve patients in underserved areas to ensure an adequate supply of providers. The loan repayment program, established within Oregon Health Authority (OHA) contracts with the Oregon Office of Rural Health (ORH) to administer the program. In the 2015-2017 biennium, ORH received 150 applications and awarded 26 awards based on available funds.

Eligible providers are for the program are: a dentist in general or pediatric practice; an expanded practice dental hygienist; a physician (MD or DO) who practices or intends to practice in the specialties of family medicine, general practice, general internal medicine, geriatrics, pediatrics, or obstetrics and gynecology; a nurse practitioner who practices or intends to practice in the specialties of adult health, women's health care, geriatrics, pediatrics, psychiatric mental health, family practice or nurse midwifery; a physician assistant who practices or intends to practice in the specialties of family medicine, general practice, general internal medicine, geriatrics, pediatrics or obstetrics and gynecology; a psychiatrist who practices or intends to practice general psychiatry, child/adolescent psychiatry, or geriatric psychiatry; a clinical psychologist; a licensed clinical social worker; or a marriage or family therapist.

House Bill 2751 adds occupational therapists to list of eligible providers to apply for the PCLRP and extends the sunset of the loan program for two years, January 2018 to January 2020.