

HB 2304 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

Prepared By: Oliver Droppers, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/13, 5/11

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: No impact.

FISCAL: Fiscal impact issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure

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 expands the types of Traditional Health Workers (THWs) recognized in Oregon by adding peer, family and youth support specialists (ORS 414.025).