

**HB 2401 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Joint Committee On Ways and Means**

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**Prepared By:** Kim To, Fiscal Administrative Supervisor

**Meeting Dates:** 5/30, 6/2

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

HB 2401 requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide trauma-informed training for employees responsible for licensing, certifying, or investigating child-caring agencies and foster homes. The bill specifies certain elements that must be included in this training. DHS is required to develop a set of written guidelines for trauma-informed practices for employees that may be shared with the Oregon Health Authority, the Oregon Youth Authority, the Public Safety Standards and Training Board, and other entities. The bill authorizes DHS, subject to availability of funds, to provide trauma-informed training to others in the child welfare system, including caseworkers, foster parents, parents, medical examiners, and educators.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Fiscal Impact

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Removes appropriation language.

**BACKGROUND:**

Trauma informed practice is an approach which recognizes and acknowledges trauma and its prevalence, alongside awareness and sensitivity to its dynamics, in all aspects of care and service delivery. The practice is grounded in and directed by a thorough understanding of the neurological, biological, psychological and social effects of trauma and interpersonal violence and the prevalence of these experiences in persons who receive social services. It involves not only changing assumptions about how services are provided, but also creates organizational cultures that are holistic and therapeutic. A trauma informed approach is responsive to the impact of trauma, emphasizing physical, psychological, and emotional safety for both service providers and survivors; and creates opportunities for survivors to rebuild a sense of control and empowerment.

HB 2401 requires the Department of Human Services to provide trauma-informed training and curriculum for case planners and other persons involved in child welfare.