

SB 270 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 2/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Restricts providers that issue initial opiate prescriptions to adults in outpatient settings to a seven-day supply unless a greater quantity is determined medically necessary by the provider. Restricts providers that write initial and refill prescriptions for opiates to individuals under 18 years of age to a seven-day supply, unless a greater quantity is determined medically necessary, and share with the parent or guardian of the minor the risks with opiate use. Requires a provider that issues an opiate prescription that's more than a seven-day supply to document the patient's medical issue(s) and indicate whether the provider considered a non-opiate alternative.

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:

Opioids are prescribed by health care providers for emergency care, surgery, pain management, cancer treatments, mental health and substance use disorders, among other legitimate patient care needs. (Oregon Health Authority, 2015). In 2012-2013, an estimated 212,000 individuals in Oregon self-reported using prescription pain relievers non-medically. In Oregon, opiates result in more drug poisoning deaths than alcohol, methamphetamines, heroin and cocaine.

Senate Bill 270 creates new Oregon-specific opioid prescribing guidelines for health care providers that work in outpatient settings.