

HB 2223 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

Action Date: 04/03/17

Action: Do pass and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference

Vote: 9-0-0-0

Yeas: 9 - Doherty, Evans, Hernandez, McLain, Parrish, Sollman, Sprenger, Vial, Wilson

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and State School Nursing Consultant ('Consultant') establish a program to develop and maintain statewide school nursing services to meet the student to nurse ratio, assist school districts in funding school nurse positions and create school nurse sustainability plan. Requires ODE and Consultant develop statewide nursing standard of practice that include outcome measures for school health transformation and academic performance. Requires they work to create integrated school health services delivery model to foster noncompetitive collaborative strategy. Requires the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) amend the state plan to secure federal financial participation in the cost of care and reimbursement for care services provided by school nurses to students enrolled in state medical assistance programs. Appropriates money from the General Fund beginning July 1, 2017. Becomes operative July 1, 2018. Allows the ODE, OHA and State Board of Education to take any action before the operative date.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Difference between school nursing and school based health centers
- Goal is to increase Medicaid from 5.2 million to 42 million people
- Appropriation of \$50 million would allow enough money for one school nurse in every school
- Number of education service districts that currently perform Medicaid administrative planning or direct billing

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

During the 1970s, laws were enacted to protect students attending public school to require school nurses and ensure that student to nurse ratio needs are being met. The Rehabilitation Act (1973), along with the Education for all Handicapped Children Act (1975), suggested that school nurses are necessary for school districts to successfully provide a healthy educational environment. The National Association of School Nurses suggests one school nurse for every 750 students. For students requiring daily nursing services, it is recommended to have one nurse for every 225 students. Students requiring continuous interaction may require a professional nursing service on a minute-by-minute basis.

House Bill 2223 requires the Oregon Department of Education and State School Nursing Consultant establish a program to develop and maintain statewide school nursing services to meet the student to nurse ratio, assist school districts in funding school nurse positions and create a school nurse sustainability plan to successfully meet every Oregon student's needs.