

HB 2451 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 04/10/17

Action: Do pass with amendments
and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 8-0-1-0

Yeas: 8 - Alonso Leon, Buehler, Greenlick, Hack, Hayden, Keny-Guyer, Malstrom, Nosse

Exc: 1 - Kennemer

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, LPRO Analyst

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes medical assistance eligibility for individuals under age 26 who have aged out of foster care in Oregon or another state. Establishes eligibility as 18 years of age. Requires the Oregon Health Authority to seek federal matching funds for costs of medical assistance provided to individuals who aged out of foster care in another state.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Personal experience of aging out of foster care
- Young adults that have the ability to remain on their parent's medical insurance
- Barriers for Oregon Health Plan eligibility

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Changes medical assistance eligibility from 19 years of age to 18 years of age.

BACKGROUND:

Foster care is a temporary living arrangement for children who need a safe place to live when their parents or guardians cannot safely take care of them. There are three types of foster care:

Relative Foster Care: Relative Caregivers are valuable resources for children, and the Department of Human Services (DHS) is committed to prioritizing the placement of children in foster care with Relative Caregivers when safe and appropriate. The certification process is the same as General, non-relative, foster families.

Child Specific Foster Care: Child Specific Foster Families do not plan to have other children or young adults placed with their family. These families are not considered relatives, but may know the child from the neighborhood, school, church or other activities the family has been involved within the community. Usually, the certification ends when the child or young adult leaves the home.

General Foster Care: Any child or young adult not placed with relatives, kith or kin is placed with a certified family.