

HB 3261 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 04/17/17

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

Vote: 9-0-0-0

Yeas: 9 - Alonso Leon, Buehler, Greenlick, Hack, Hayden, Kennemer, Keny-Guyer, Malstrom, Nosse

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: Revenue impact issued

Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, LPRO Analyst

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Health Policy Board to collaborate with the Office of Rural Health to develop a uniform application form for all health care provider financial incentive programs and collect information from program participants. Modifies eligibility requirements for rural medical care tax credit and health care provider incentive program for rural or medically underserved areas. Redefines qualified metropolitan statistical area. Specifies requirements that the providers must fulfill to obtain the tax credit. Repeals tax credit for medical staff at rural hospitals with 50 or more beds. Takes effect 91st day following sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Effectiveness of program
- Positive benefits to rural communities
- Streamline the allocation and funding decisions
- Need for flexibility to use the dollars between programs
- Proposed amendments

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces all the Oregon Health Authority references with the Oregon Health Policy Board. Redefines qualified metropolitan statistical area. Specifies requirements that the providers must fulfill to obtain the tax credit.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon currently implements health care provider incentive programs for health care providers working in rural locations and providing primary care in medically underserved areas. These programs are designed to provide subsidies, loan repayment and tax credits to eligible health care practitioners. A report published by the Oregon Health Policy Board found that approximately 1,800 health care professionals claim the rural provider tax credit for any given tax year.