

HB 2304 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Action Date: 06/29/17

Action: Without recommendation as to passage and be returned to President's desk for referral to another committee.

Senate Vote

Yeas: 12 - DeBoer, Devlin, Frederick, Girod, Hansell, Johnson, Manning Jr, Monroe, Roblan, Steiner Hayward, Thomsen, Winters

House Vote

Yeas: 11 - Gomberg, Holvey, Huffman, McLane, Nathanson, Rayfield, Smith G, Smith Warner, Stark, Whisnant, Williamson

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Kim To, Fiscal Administrative Supervisor

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Adds Certified Advocates and Peer Support Specialists, which includes Family Support and Youth Support Specialists, to the definition of Peer Wellness Specialists. Defines Family Support and Youth Support Specialists. Directs Oregon Health Authority to adopt qualification criteria.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Traditional Health Workers Commission is overseen by the Oregon Health Authority's (OHA) Office of Equity and Inclusion. The Commission promotes the role, engagement and utilization of the traditional health workforce, which includes Community Health Workers, Peer Wellness Specialists, Personal Health Navigators, Peer Support Specialists and Doulas. The 19-member Commission advises and makes recommendations to OHA on the development, implementation and sustainability of the program.

House Bill 2304-A expands Oregon's traditional health workforce by recognizing peer, family and youth support specialists and certified advocates.