

HB 2304 B STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Beyer

Senate Committee On Rules

Action Date: 07/03/17

Action: Do pass with amendments to the A-Eng bill. (Printed B-Eng.)

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Beyer, Boquist, Burdick, Ferrioli, Roblan

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Adds 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 (OHA) to adopt qualification criteria. Directs Attorney General and OHA to develop and implement plan incorporating advocates for domestic and sexual violence survivors into traditional health care workforce to increase access to advocate services.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Effect of amendment

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Removes Certified Advocates from definition of traditional health worker. Directs Attorney General and Oregon Health Authority to develop and implement plan incorporating advocates for domestic and sexual violence survivors into traditional health care workforce to increase access to advocate services.

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-B expands Oregon's traditional health workforce by recognizing peer, family, and youth support specialists. Additionally, HB 2304-B requires the Attorney General and OHA to develop and implement a plan for incorporating sexual and domestic abuse survivor advocates into the traditional health workers workforce in order to increase access to advocate services.