

SB 1539 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes the Oregon Psychiatric Access Line (OPAL-A) in Oregon Health and Science University to provide psychiatric physician consultations to primary care providers caring for adults. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

Fiscal Impact: \$900,000 for 2017-19 Biennium and \$1,800,000 for 2019-21 Biennium

Revenue Impact: No impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Psychiatric Access Line about Kids (OPAL-K) was established in 2013 with funding from the Oregon legislature. The OPAL-K program provides free, same-day child and adolescent psychiatric phone consultations to primary care providers throughout the state. Over 1,500 consult calls have been made since 2014 with 555 consult calls occurring in 2017.

The measure establishes the Oregon Psychiatric Access Line (OPAL-A) to provide telephone or electronic psychiatric consultations to primary care providers caring for adult patients with mental health disorders.