

SB 918 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Human Services

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Meeting Dates: 3/5

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires local mental health authority to notify local systems of suspected suicide of individuals 24 years of age or younger when individuals had contact with local systems if local health authority received notice of death from third party. Includes principals or superintendents of public or private schools, juvenile department, community developmental disabilities programs, child welfare agencies, substance use disorder programs, or any other organization or person identified by local mental health authority as necessary to receive notice. Requires notice to include name, date of birth, and date of death of deceased individual, and other information not otherwise protected from public disclosure. Includes definition of "third-party notification" to mean notification from source other than a patient in a program administered by local mental health authority during treatment of patient.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

According to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), suicide was the second leading cause of death among 10 to 24 year olds in Oregon in 2016. There were 97 youth suicides in 2014. Senate Bill 561, passed in 2015, directed OHA to develop a plan for improved communication and data sharing about youth suicide and be a central resource for local mental health authorities. Senate Bill 918 directs local mental health authorities to notify local systems having contact with deceased individuals 24 years of age or younger of suspected suicide if the local health authority received the notice of the death from a third party. The measure includes principals or superintendents of public or private schools, juvenile department, community developmental disabilities programs, child welfare agencies, substance use disorder programs, or any other organization or person identified by local mental health authority as necessary to receive notice. Finally, Senate Bill 918 requires the notification to include the name, date of birth, and date of death of deceased individual, and other information not otherwise protected from public disclosure, and includes a definition of "third-party notification."