

HB 3279 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Health Care

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to pay providers of substance use disorder (SUD) services an amount established by OHA which must be the same payment amount for providers of mental health treatment. Allows OHA and coordinated care organizations (CCOs) to use alternative payment methodologies to reimburse SUD providers if payment methodologies apply equally to providers of mental health treatment. Specifies OHA and CCOs may not reduce payment to mental health providers to comply with the measure. Replaces “chemical dependency” services with “substance use disorder” services in statute.

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 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Medicaid is the largest payer for mental health services in the United States and plays a significant role in the reimbursement of substance use disorder services. CMS states that individuals with a behavioral health disorder utilize significant health care services with approximately 12 million visits to U.S. hospital emergency departments in 2007 that involved individuals with a mental disorder, substance abuse problem, or both.

House Bill 3279 establishes payment parity for services provided by mental health and substance use disorder professionals in Medicaid.