

HB 2691 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Nosse

House Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 02/12/19

Action: Do pass with amendments and rescind subsequent referral to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 11-0-0-0

Yeas: 11 - Alonso Leon, Boles, Drazan, Greenlick, Hayden, Keny-Guyer, Mitchell, Noble, Nosse, Prusak, Salinas

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Oliver Droppers, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/7, 2/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes statutory authority for the Oregon Psychiatric Access Line (OPAL) operated by Oregon Health and Science University to provide psychiatric consultations to primary care providers treating Oregon residents with mental health disorders, electronically or via telephone. Requires consulting psychiatrists to consider prescription drug treatment protocols.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Types of services provided by OPAL
- OPAL does not currently seek payment from providers or insurers

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Changes OPAL business hours. Modifies psychiatrist prescription guidelines.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Psychiatric Access Line (OPAL) established in 2013 with funding from the Oregon Legislative Assembly, initially focused on children. OPAL is a partnership among Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU), the Oregon Pediatric Society, and the Oregon Council of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. The program provides free, same-day child and adolescent psychiatric phone consultations to primary care providers throughout the state.

In 2018, Senate Bill 1539 sought to expand OPAL to include psychiatric consultations for providers whose patients were adults. Although Senate Bill 1539 was not enacted, the Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 5201 which included a budget note appropriating \$900,000 from the General Fund to the Oregon Health Authority for OPAL's expansion.

House Bill 2691-A establishes statutory authority for OPAL to provide psychiatric phone service to primary care providers treating children and adults.