

HB 2750 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

Action Date: 03/13/19

Action: Do pass and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference

Vote: 11-0-0-0

Yeas: 11 - Barker, Bynum, Gorsek, Greenlick, Lewis, McLane, Piluso, Power, Sprenger, Stark, Williamson

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Gillian Fischer, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 2/28, 3/11, 3/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Department of Justice to establish a program for awarding grants to law enforcement agencies and local governments for training of groups and agencies that interact with persons who have experienced trauma. Directs the Department of Justice and the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training to develop research-based best practices and establish a model training program that takes into account effects of trauma and that has the objective of minimizing further trauma. Directs law enforcement agencies to adopt appropriate best practice policies for interacting with persons who have experienced trauma no later than the date established by the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training by rule. Takes effect 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Training has been successful in other jurisdictions
- Trauma impacts the brain's ability to remember events chronologically
- Integrating trauma-informed interview tactics with crime victims provides more accurate evidence collection
- Victims report positive experiences with officers with trauma-informed training

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 2750 is intended to train Oregon law enforcement agencies to implement interview and response techniques consistent with identified best practices when interacting with victims of trauma. Victims of a violent crime often experience a traumatic or high-stress neurological response that inhibits the victim's ability to recount details of the incident. Law enforcement officers trained in trauma-informed interviewing techniques can help a trauma victim process the experience and facilitate the collection of accurate evidence. Trauma-informed training and awareness provides officers with an understanding of what responses are consistent with a person who is experiencing trauma and how to appropriately support that individual.