FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2019 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

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Measure Description:

Requires nonprofit hospitals and hospital systems to establish financial assistance policies meeting specified criteria.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS)

Analysis:

This fiscal impact statement is for the purpose of transmitting the measure from the House Committee on Health Care to the House Committee on Rules.

The measure establishes consumer rights with respect to billing and charges for hospital services, and requires nonprofit hospitals and hospital systems to:

- Establish financial assistance policies meeting specified criteria.
- Conduct assessments of community health care needs and develop a three-year strategy to address community health care needs. The measure specifies requirements for the needs assessment and the development of strategy.
- Post certain information on the entity's website.
- Annually report specified information to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA).

The measure directs OHA to establish a community benefit spending floor for each hospital and hospital system. The measure specifies remedies and penalties for hospitals and hospital systems failing to meet spending floor.

The measure stipulates that insurers cannot prohibit hospitals from waiving all or part of copayments or deductibles as a condition of reimbursement for services under policy or certificate of insurance.

The measure is anticipated to have an impact on the Oregon Health Authority and the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS).

A more complete fiscal analysis on the measure will be prepared as the measure is considered in the House Committee on Rules.

Further Analysis Required