

**SB 299 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On Judiciary**

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**Action Date:** 04/08/19

**Action:** Do pass with amendments and requesting referral to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Engrossed.)

**Vote:** 7-0-0-0

**Yeas:** 7 - Bentz, Fagan, Gelser, Linthicum, Manning Jr, Prozanski, Thatcher

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Addie Smith, Counsel

**Meeting Dates:** 3/21, 4/4, 4/8

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Provides health care coverage under the Health Care for All Oregon Children program for youth in juvenile detention facilities awaiting adjudication. Requires Oregon Health Authority to seek federal approval for Medicaid to support the costs of providing medical assistance to youth in detention pending adjudication by July 1, 2022. Directs the Oregon Health Authority to collaborate with county juvenile department directors, the Department of Human Services, and the Oregon Youth Authority to study the need to provide health assistance to youth held in detention facilities prior to adjudication.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Suspension of Oregon Health Plan for youth in detention awaiting adjudication
- Types and cost of medical care youth in detention awaiting adjudication
- Barriers to accessing health care include inability to retain medical professionals, inadequate facilities, and complex care needs of youth

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Replaces the measure.

**BACKGROUND:**

In 2018, 3,612 minors were placed in detention while awaiting resolution of their cases. The average length of stay for pre-adjudication non-Ballot Measure 11 youth was 10.5 days and 99.1 days for youth held for a Ballot Measure 11 offense. Federal law prohibits the use of federal Medicaid moneys to fund health or mental health services for detained youth awaiting adjudication. In Oregon, when a youth is placed in detention their Medicaid benefits must be suspended. ORS 414.231 creates the Health Care for All Oregon Children program which makes "affordable, accessible health care available to all of Oregon's children. The program provides medical assistance to children, funded in whole or in part by Title XIX of the Social Security Act, by the State Children's Health Insurance Program under Title XXI of the Social Security Act and by moneys appropriated or allocated for that purpose by the Legislative Assembly." It does not currently provide health care for youth in pre-adjudication detention.

Senate Bill 299 A provides health care coverage for youth in detention awaiting adjudication. The measure also requires the Oregon Health Authority to seek Medicaid to support the coverage of those children by July 1, 2022, and requires the Oregon Health Authority, juvenile department directors, and the Oregon Youth Authority to study barriers to the provision of health care to those children.