

HB 4120 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Human Services and Housing

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/3, 2/5

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates to the Department of Human Services \$2 million from the general fund to provide transition services to foster children.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- One-third of prior Oregon foster children have been homeless in the last two years
- Program would serve an additional 200 youth
- Rising cost of housing represents a challenge in serving clients where they live
- Additional funding needed in future sessions to address larger need for this population

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Clarifies that the funding for transition services are for current and certain former foster children.

BACKGROUND:

Foster care is a non-permanent living arrangement for minors who need a safe place to live when their parents or guardians cannot safely take care of them. Most children are in foster care because of a history of abuse or neglect. The Department of Human Services is responsible for children in foster care and manages the foster home certification process and helps young adults transition out of foster care to independence.