

HB 4112 -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:

Establishes the Child Abuse Assessment Account within the State Treasury with the funds being appropriated to the Department of Justice (DOJ) for the purposes of children advocacy centers (CACs). Directs interest earned by the account be credited to the account. Directs the administrator of the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Program to develop and administer a grant program, that is separate from the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention grant program described in ORS 418.746. Directs the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Program to allocate money from the Child Abuse Assessment Account to eligible child advocacy centers, utilizing an equitable distribution formula that considers the size of each children's advocacy center's service area and the costs of equitably providing services to all victims within that area. Prohibits this money from being used as replacement revenues for current previously allocated funds. Requires the DOJ to adopt by rule a claim form to be used for submission of claims for payment for child abuse assessments when a finding of abuse has not been made. Appropriates to the DOJ \$3 million for deposit into the Child Abuse Assessment Account.

Directs the University of Oregon to conduct a child abuse prevalence study and to submit a report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to human services every even-numbered year by September 15. Appropriates to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission \$700,000 for the study.

Appropriates an unspecified amount to the Department of Education to develop curricula for Erin's Law training and other instruction related to child safety. Declares emergency. Effective on passage.

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

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- State funding accounts for 17 percent of Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Program revenue
- ODE staffing levels
- Lack of data on child abuse to track prevention and service effectiveness
- Trauma informed care
- HB 3180 (2019)

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 01/31/2020

Establishes the Criminal Injuries Compensation Account. Authorizes appropriation for use by Department of Justice (DOJ). Clarifies circumstances when DOJ is authorized to make payments for medical services when child sexual abuse or child physical abuse by an adult is suspected but a finding of abuse is not made. Limits amount that a children's advocacy center may charge for medical services. Dictates that the relevant payments may be made for services provided by children's advocacy centers before, on, or after the bill becomes law.

BACKGROUND:

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The Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention (CAMI) Account is the primary source of state funding for the intervention, assessment and investigation of child abuse.

State law requires CAMI funds (which are grant funds) be distributed through multidisciplinary teams (MDTs). MDTs are established in each county under the the local district attorney. CAMI funds are also distributed directly to non-profit child abuse intervention centers to provide specialized regional assistance to the MDTs.

In 2017, school district boards were mandated to adopt educational programs to teach children how to recognize, escape, and report sexual abuse (ORS 336.059). In the same year, the Center for School Safety Account was established within the General Fund, which earmarks moneys to conduct research on and evaluate programs related to school and community safety (ORS 339.336).

House Bill 4112 establishes the Child Abuse Assessment Account and appropriates \$3 million for the account, directs the University of Oregon to conduct a child abuse prevalence study and provides \$700,000 for the study, and appropriates an unspecified amount to the Department of Education to develop curricula for Erin's Law training.