

**SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

**Oregon Health Authority  
Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Grant**

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On February 19th, the Human Services Subcommittee recommended approval of the submission of a federal grant application from the Oregon Health Authority to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the amount of \$800,000 to monitor the hearing status of infants who are deaf or hard of hearing.

The goal of OHA's Early Hearing Detection and Intervention program is for all infants who are deaf or hard of hearing to receive the services that enable them to begin acquiring language consistent with their hearing peers. To achieve this, the program works to ensure all infants diagnosed with hearing loss are enrolled in early intervention services within six months of age. The federal grant opportunity aligns with this goal by supporting activities that improve the timely receipt of quality diagnostic and intervention data.

If awarded, the program will use the funding to assess and improve the quality of early hearing and detection data, provide training and technical assistance to program partners, develop data reports and disseminate information among stakeholders, and collaborate with the CDC to identify trends and gaps in data. OHA will not need additional staff to carry out these activities.

The grant period is for four years and no state match or maintenance of effort is required.

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends approval.