

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

HB 4031

Relating to behavioral health

HB 4031 requires the Oregon Health Authority to prepare an assessment that forecasts the supply of and demand for behavioral health professionals in Oregon over the next 10 years. The purpose of the assessment is to serve as a planning tool for the legislature with regard to behavioral health professionals.

The bill outlines various elements the assessment must include, such as identification of gaps in the behavioral health workforce, the need for behavioral health professionals by service type, and the number and type of behavioral health professionals preparing to enter the workforce. The assessment must also evaluate any barriers to meeting the current goals of the behavioral health workforce and make recommendations that articulate clear strategies for overcoming these barriers.

The estimated fiscal impact is \$606,246 General Fund to support contractual costs and one limited-duration position. The -A4 amendment recommended by the Subcommittee includes the General Fund appropriation in the bill, changes the deadline of the assessment from November 1, 2020 to December 1, 2020, and establishes an emergency clause.

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends HB 4031 be amended by the -A4 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.