

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2020 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

Measure: HB 4115 - A

*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*

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Measure Description:

Requires health care providers, including coordinated care organizations, and companies providing health care interpreters to health care providers to use health care interpreters who are qualified or certified by Oregon Health Authority.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI), Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS)

Analysis:

This fiscal impact statement is for the purpose of transmitting the measure from the House Committee on Health Care to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

The measure requires the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to report to the interim committee of the House of Representatives related to health on the costs of its efforts and progress in implementing the provisions of this bill by September 15, 2020. In addition, the bill requires OHA to:

- Provide all health care interpreter training in this state to professionalize the health care interpreter workforce and ensure the use of qualified or certified health care interpreters throughout this state. The training must be free or provided at a cost that is affordable
- Create a central registry for all health care interpreters who are qualified or certified by OHA. The Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) is required to establish by rule standards, policies and processes to hold accountable interpretation service companies for contracting with or employing as health care interpreters only health care interpreters listed on the health care interpreter registry.
- Establish a four-year subscription mechanism for the registry and adopt by rule fees to cover the reasonable costs of administering the registry.
- Provide a website or otherwise implement a system, in collaboration with a labor union or other representative of the health care interpreter workforce, that allows a patient or health care provider to access the health care interpreter registry and schedule appointments with qualified or certified health care interpreters.
- Adopt by rule the steps that must be taken by an interpretation service company and the verification required to allow the use of a health care interpreter who is not listed on the health care interpreter registry.
- Track medical assistance expenditures on health care interpretation services and the portion of the expenditures that are spent on administrative costs.

The measure is anticipated to have an impact on OHA, BOLI, and the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS).

A more complete fiscal analysis on the measure will be prepared as the measure is considered in the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

Further Analysis Required