



Oregon

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June 25, 2020

Senate President Peter Courtney, Co-Chair

House Speaker Tina Kotek, Co-Chair

Senate Minority Leader Fred Girod, Co-Vice Chair

House Minority Leader Christine Drazan, Co-Vice Chair

Members of the Joint Committee on the First Special Session



Re: HB 4212 (Section 40) -25 and -30 Amendments, 2020 First Special Session

Introduction:

House Bill (HB) 4212 was introduced by Speaker Tina Kotek at the request of the Joint Committee on the First Special Session of 2020. The bill authorizes a number of provisions in order to allow the functioning of the state during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Background:

In 2013, the Oregon Legislature passed HB 2134, directing the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to work together to improve how race, ethnicity, spoken and written language, and disability (REALD) demographics are collected. The OHA Office of Equity and Inclusion (OEI) developed the REALD data collection standards by collaborating with internal and external stakeholders and researchers. REALD standards were adopted in the Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 943-070-000 through 943-070-007 in early 2014.

Though the REALD questionnaire has been in use since 2014, the current questionnaire may not accurately identify whether a person has an intellectual or developmental disability. Adding relevant questions will allow a better understanding of Oregonians who live with intellectual and developmental disabilities and allow OHA and ODDS to actively work to reduce health care inequities for this population.

What This Bill Does:

The -25 and -30 amendments being considered amends Section 40 of HB 4212 by adding the requirements to collect and report REALD data during the COVID-19 pandemic and establishes phased deadlines for the collection of data.

Summary:

The Office of Developmental Disabilities Services looks forward to working with the Oregon Health Authority through their rule making process to include questions that will allow necessary and appropriate disability data to be collected as a part of the REALD questionnaire.

“Assisting People to Become Independent, Healthy and Safe”

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