

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 13: Oregon Health Authority Provider Relief Fund

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Human Services Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Knopp

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means approve, retroactively, the submission of a federal grant application request to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for reimbursement of Oregon State Hospital expenses or lost revenues resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Provider Relief Fund provides financial relief to health care providers to mitigate the financial impact of COVID-19. The State Hospital is eligible to apply for the current phase of funding because it bills Medicare and Medicaid for eligible patient costs. The federal application process does not allow applicants to request a specific dollar amount and HHS will determine individual payment levels after all applications have been evaluated.

During the 2019-21 biennium, the hospital received a combined \$3 million through two previous grant phases. Any amount awarded under the current opportunity will be recognized in the Oregon Health Authority's subsequent budget rebalance. The grant does not require a state match or maintenance of effort and will not be used to hire new staff.

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends approval.