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Lisa Rybloom, Assistant

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81st LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

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Date: January 11, 2022

To: Members of the House Interim Committee on Human Services

From: Iva Sokolovska, Legislative Analyst

Re: Committee drafts for introduction on Tuesday, January 11, 2022

LC 43 Creates mental health associate incentive program for the purpose of providing loan repayment subsidies to qualified mental health associates in the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), defines its responsibilities and eligibility criteria. Appropriates \$250,000 to the Health Care Provider Incentive Fund for the program. Directs the Department of Human Services (DHS) to develop and administer a qualified mental health associate apprenticeship program to provide occupational skill training for qualified mental health associates each biennium. Appropriates \$90,000 to the Bureau of Labor and Industries, \$60,000 to OHA, and \$90,000 to DHA for administering the apprenticeship program. Establishes the Child Welfare Cultural Equity Program in DHS to ensure access to a diverse set of child welfare service providers. Appropriates \$250,000 to DHS for the administration of the program. Directs DHS to study and report on child welfare service provider rate structures. Directs OHA to study and report on the appropriate Medicaid reimbursement rates for providers of children's intensive in-home services.

LC 44 Directs DHS to study and report to the Legislative Assembly on child welfare service provider rate structures. Directs OHA to study the nursing market to determine the appropriate Medicaid reimbursement rates for providers of children's intensive in-home services and adjust the rates accordingly.

LC 201 Directs the Department of Education to establish a pilot program to assist school districts in preventing student homelessness with one-time payments for unpaid rent, past-due utilities, or move-in expenses. Expands unaccompanied homeless youth grant program eligibility for organizations. Appropriates \$437,500 to DHS for said program. Expands tuition and fee waiver program to include current or former homeless youth and appropriates \$35,000 to DHS for the purpose of providing grants to programs that will assist homeless youth in applying for

and accessing the tuition and fee waivers. Expands qualifications for authorization of independent residence facilities for unmarried persons. Directs DHS to report to the Legislative Assembly with recommendations for legislation to reduce the numbers of youth experiencing homelessness by at least 25 percent over a five-year period.