SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 13: Oregon Health Authority OSH Federal Ruling on Admissions

To: Emergency Board Full Committee From: Human Services Subcommittee

Carrier: Representative Nosse

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends that the Emergency Board allocate \$4,857,521 General Fund from the special purpose appropriation made to the Emergency Board for Oregon Health Authority or Department of Human Services caseload costs or other budget challenges, and authorize the establishment of 59 permanent positions (14.75 FTE) to respond to a federal court ruling that establishes limits on the time patients on Aid and Assist orders can stay at the Oregon State Hospital.

On August 29, a U.S. district judge ruled the Oregon State Hospital must establish shorter timelines people can be held in the hospital for treatment that helps them understand the criminal charges against them and assist in their own defense. The court ruling requires patients on Aid and Assist orders to be discharged within 90 days of admission if they were charged with a misdemeanor, 180 days if charged with a felony, and one year if charged with a violent felony.

These timelines result in more work occurring in a shorter timeframe across various stages of the patient admission, treatment, and discharge process. The General Fund allocation will address the increased workload by supporting additional positions assigned to forensic evaluation, security and transportation, clinical services, medical and pharmacy services, and case coordination.

The Subcommittee recommends approval.