

SB 457 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

Prepared By: Brian Nieuburt, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Modifies required coverage of prescription drugs in medical assistance program. Requires Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to appoint an advisory committee for prescription drug coverage rulemaking. Requires OHA to adopt and maintain a partially aligned preferred drug list for coordinated care organizations. Reduces term of membership to Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee (P&T Committee) and Health Evidence Review Commission (HERC) from four to two years. Clarifies requirements for P&T Committee and HERC use of advisory committees. Specifies conflict of interest requirements for P&T Committee and HERC members. Specifies P&T Committee and HERC requirements for acceptance of witness testimony. Changes posting, implementation, and reconsideration timelines for P&T Committee recommendations from seven to 30 days. Requires decision approving, disapproving or modifying recommendation of committee to be adopted by rule. Specifies HERC meeting posting requirements. Specifies rulemaking procedures for prioritized list of health services. Specifies P&T Committee and HERC use and consideration of research studies, including in cases of rare diseases or conditions.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee (P&T Committee) is a 11-member volunteer, advisory committee of physicians, pharmacists and consumer representatives. The P&T Committee is responsible for performing drug use review and making drug policy recommendations for the state's Medicaid program, the Oregon Health Plan (OHP).

The Health Evidence Review Commission (HERC) consists of 13 volunteer members who review clinical evidence in order to guide the Oregon Health Authority in making benefit-related decisions for its health plans, including OHP. The HERC maintains the Prioritized List of Health Services that is used by the legislature to guide funding decisions for OHP.

Senate Bill 457 modifies membership, duties, and responsibilities of the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee and Health Evidence Review Commission and modifies required coverage of prescription drugs by the Oregon Health Plan.