

SB 355 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 3/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Delays sunset of requirement that health insurers reimburse cost of applied behavior analysis for autism spectrum disorder from January 2, 2022 to January 2, 2030. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

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:

-1 Clarifies applicability of sunset delay.

BACKGROUND:

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) is a therapy based on the science of learning and behavior. ABA therapy applies our understanding of how behavior works to real situations. The goal is to increase behaviors that are helpful and decrease behaviors that are harmful or affect learning.

Senate Bill 365 (2013) established requirements for coverage of applied behavior analysis for treatment of autism spectrum disorders by health benefit plans, health care service contractors, the Public Employees' Benefit Board (PEBB) and the Oregon Educators Benefit Board (OEBB).

Senate Bill 355 delays the sunset on the requirement that regulated insurers in Oregon provide reimbursement for applied behavior analysis services.