

HB 2164 -6 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 3/16, 4/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the office of the Governor to conduct a study on potential policy changes to address health equity. Requires the office of the Governor to report to the legislature no later than September 15, 2002. Takes effects on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Recent Medicaid coverage expansions including Cover All Kids (2017)
- Access to services and affordable coverage among Oregon's immigrant and refugee communities
- Health equity, insurance coverage, and disproportionate rate of uninsured among communities of color
- Impact of COVID-19 among communities of color and medically underserved communities

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-6 **Replaces measure.** Renames *Health Care for All Oregon Children* (Healthy Kids) to *Cover All People* program. Expands medical assistance coverage to all adult residents 26 years or younger regardless of immigration status. Specifies eligible youth are continuously enrolled for minimum period of 12 months or until youth reaches 27 years of age. Directs OHA in rule to define "parent" and expands medical assistance coverage to adult parents with children eligible for Cover All People program. Specifies additional eligibility criteria to include being a resident and ineligible for Medicaid due to immigration status. Specifies OHA is responsible for "education and engagement" for Cover All People program. Adds "Cover All People" to the statutory definition of "medical assistance" (ORS 414.025). Allows OHA and Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) to seek federal approval including waivers to maximize federal financial participation. Specifies implementation is not contingent on federal waivers or approval.

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

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

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Health Plan (OHP) provides health coverage to individuals and families through federal Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). In 2009, the legislature passed House Bill 2116, establishing the Health Care for All Oregon Children (Healthy Kids) program that made coverage available to children and adolescents (0-18) whose family earns up to 300 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL). According to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), in 2019, approximately 97 percent of children and teens (0-18) were enrolled in health coverage. Among the remaining uninsured, 61 percent were identified as eligible for Medicaid but not enrolled.

Passed in 2017, Senate Bill 558 (Cover All Kids) extended OHP to all children residing in Oregon, regardless of immigration status below 300 percent of the federal poverty level. The measure also allocated funding to provide targeted, community-based outreach to assist with implementation through OHA's Community Partner Outreach Program (CPOP). According to OHA, at the end of the 2017-19 biennium, nearly 5,900 children had enrolled in OHP-Cover All Kids (2019).

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