

**HB 2119 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On Human Services, Mental Health and Recovery**

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**Prepared By:** C. Ross, Counsel

**Meeting Dates:** 5/4, 5/6

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Transfers the duties, functions and authority over the 2-1-1 system from the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) to the Department of Human Services (DHS). Directs DHS to consult with the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to administer and manage the 2-1-1 system.

*House committee: 5-2*

*House floor: 1 no vote*

*No fiscal or revenue impact*

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Since 2000, the Federal Communications Commission has designated “211” as an information and referral service line. In many states, by dialing 2-1-1, those in need of assistance can be referred, and sometimes connected, to appropriate agencies and community-based health and human services organizations. A caller can be directed to a variety of services including: physical and mental health resources, work support, access to services in languages other than English, support for older persons and persons with disabilities, children, youth and family supports, and suicide prevention. In 2005, the responsibility for a federally funded 2-1-1 system was placed with the Office of Emergency Management (OEM), but federal funds were never made available and OEM never engaged in administration. Oregon’s 2-1-1 system has been operated by a nonprofit organization called 211info since 2004.

House Bill 2119 A transfers responsibility for administration of the 2-1-1 system from OEM to the Department of Human Services (DHS) and enables DHS to receive federal funds intended for administration of the 2-1-1 system.