

SB 428 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 03/01/21

Action: Do pass and requesting referral to Ways and Means.

Vote: 4-1-0-0

Yeas: 4 - Beyer, Knopp, Manning Jr, Patterson

Nays: 1 - Heard

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/24, 3/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Extends the timeline to submit a report by the Task Force on Universal Health Care from the 2021 legislative session to the 2022 regular session. Declares emergency, takes effect on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Universal health care for all Oregonians
- Delay of the start of the task force due to COVID-19 pandemic in 2020
- Health care disparities in the United States
- Progress and current work of the task force
- Timeline extension to allow task force to complete its work and support public hearings post COVID-19 pandemic
- Senate Joint Resolution 12

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2019, the Oregon Legislative Assembly passed Senate Bill 770, establishing the Task Force on Universal Health Care. The Task Force is charged with recommending a universal health care system that offers equitable, affordable, comprehensive, high quality, publicly funded health care to all Oregon residents. The Task Force began meeting monthly in July 2020, and will submit a report to the Legislative Assembly recommending a Health Care for All Oregon Plan no later than June 2021.

The Task Force's recommendations must address: (1) eligibility, covered benefits, and affordability; (2) role of the current health care system; (3) provider reimbursement and participation; (4) cost containment; (5) financing of and revenue to support universal coverage; and (6) governance and administration of a universal health care model. The Task Force is also assessing employer-sponsored coverage, publicly financed coverage programs (e.g., Medicare and Medicaid), and the feasibility of federal waivers. The Task Force has established several advisory and technical committees, which report back to the Task Force monthly and are responsible for proposing Plan design elements (see list above) to be considered by the full Task Force in drafting its recommendations. Per Senate Bill 770, the Task Force also created the Consumer Advisory Committee to provide input from a health care consumer perspective.

Senate Bill 428 extends the Task Force on Universal Health Care to the 2022 regular session.