

HB 2316 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Behavioral Health

Action Date: 03/29/21

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 8-0-1-0

Yeas: 8 - Lively, Moore-Green, Morgan, Nosse, Reynolds, Salinas, Sanchez, Sollman

Exc: 1 - Wright

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/8, 3/29

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Transfers responsibility for administering Housing for Mental Health Fund from Housing and Community Services Department (HCSD) to Oregon Health Authority (OHA). Transfers responsibility for convening advisory group from HCSD to OHA. Replaces OHA staff person on advisory group with staff person from HCSD. Establishes the Behavioral Health Housing Incentive Fund. Directs Oregon Health Authority to administer funds. Repeals the Housing for Mental Health Fund on June 30, 2022. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Funding for mental health
- Types and limits of housing projects
- History of Housing for Mental Health Fund

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Establishes the Behavioral Health Housing Incentive Fund. Directs Oregon Health Authority to administer funds. Repeals the Housing for Mental Health Fund on June 30, 2022. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Legislative Assembly established the Housing for Mental Health Fund in 2015 when it dedicated \$20 million in lottery bonds and housed the fund in the Housing and Community Services Department (commonly known as Oregon Housing and Community Services or OHCS). These funds were allocated to provide financial assistance for the development, acquisition, renovation or improvement of affordable housing for Oregonians who have mental illnesses or addiction disorders. In 2017, The Oregon Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 3063, appropriating money to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) for implementation and to fund the Housing for Mental Health Fund. The measure also specified the maximum allocation of the fund towards certain construction and start-up costs and required OHA to convene an advisory group to make recommendations for the Housing for Mental Health Fund regarding allocation of money, housing proposals, and processing applications.

House Bill 2316 A establishes the Behavioral Health Housing Incentive Fund and repeals the Housing for Mental Health Fund on June 30, 2022.