

SB 2 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Prusak

House Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 05/25/21

Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 9-1-0-0

Yeas: 9 - Alonso Leon, Campos, Hayden, Moore-Green, Noble, Prusak, Salinas, Schouten, Weber

Nays: 1 - Dexter

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Brian Nieubuurt, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/27, 5/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Specifies that required insurance coverage of proton beam therapy is limited to treatment of prostate cancer. Specifies that prior authorization or utilization review for coverage of proton beam therapy may only be applied if it is no more restrictive than review applied to radiation therapy.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of proton beam coverage in Oregon
- Senate Bill 740 (2019)
- Efficacy and cost of proton beam therapy
- Application of prior authorization

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Specifies that required insurance coverage of proton beam therapy is limited to treatment of prostate cancer. Specifies that prior authorization or utilization review for coverage of proton beam therapy may only be applied if it is no more restrictive than review applied to radiation therapy.

BACKGROUND:

In 2019, the Legislative Assembly passed Senate Bill 740 requiring health insurers to provide coverage of proton beam therapy for treatment of cancer to the same extent the insurer provides coverage of radiation therapy. The bill allows insurers to subject coverage of proton beam therapy to prior authorization or other utilization review. These reviews allow the insurer to evaluate the efficiency, appropriateness, and medical necessity of treatments, services, procedures, and facilities provided to patients on a case-by-case basis.

Senate Bill 2 A prohibits health insurers from imposing prior authorization and other utilization review requirements on the coverage of proton beam therapy for the treatment of cancer.