



Oregon Department of Human Services

*Office of the Director* 500 Summer St. NE, E-15 Salem, OR 97301 Voice: 503-945-5600 Fax: 503-581-6198

**Title:** <u>HB 2107</u>, OPAR: Efficiencies for the Office of Payment Accuracy and Recovery

## **Concept:**

- ORS 18.855 will be amended to remove the signature requirement for notices of garnishments issued by the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) due to benefit overpayments.
- ORS 137.924 will be amended to include ODHS and OHA as recipients of the incarcerated individuals list for the purpose of suspending benefits in accordance with federal mandates.

## Need for policy change:

The Office of Payment Accuracy and Recovery (OPAR) is a Shared Service that provides recovery and collection services to both ODHS and OHA. OPAR ensures program integrity by improving payment accuracy and recovering overpayments of both clients and service providers. Funds recovered by OPAR are returned to the various ODHS and OHA programs, allowing these funds to be available for current and future clients.

In efforts to deliver efficient services to ODHS and OHA and ensure program integrity we are proposing <u>House Bill (HB) 2107</u>. <u>HB 2107</u> will add ODHS and OHA as recipients of the incarcerated individuals list and remove the signature requirement for notices of garnishment. This will help prevent benefit overpayments by allowing for timely benefit suspension in accordance with federal mandates and improve business processes. This will ensure Oregonians receive the appropriate level of benefits, preventing avoidable overpayments and the need for recovery efforts.

## For more information please contact:

Nicole Stapp Senior Legislative Policy Analyst Oregon Department of Human Services 971-719-0123 Nicole.Stapp@dhsoha.state.or.us