

HB 4011 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Human Services

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/8, 2/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Creates mental health associate incentive program for the purpose of providing loan repayment subsidies to qualified mental health associates in the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), defines its responsibilities and eligibility criteria. Appropriates \$250,000 to OHA for the Health Care Provider Incentive Fund to be expended for the purpose of providing loan repayment subsidies to qualified mental health associates participating in the qualified mental health associate incentive program.

Establishes the Child Welfare Cultural Equity Program in the Department of Human Services (DHS) to ensure access to a diverse set of child welfare service providers and appropriates \$250,000 to DHS for the administration of the program.

Directs the Department of Human Services (DHS) to develop and administer a qualified mental health associate apprenticeship program to provide occupational skill training for qualified mental health associates each biennium. Appropriates \$90,000 to the Bureau of Labor and Industries, \$60,000 to OHA, and \$90,000 to DHA for administering the apprenticeship program.

Directs DHS to study and report on child welfare service provider rate structures. Directs OHA to study and report on the appropriate Medicaid reimbursement rates for providers of children's intensive in-home services.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Loss of beds due to COVID-19 pandemic
- Strategies to do development work and inclusive representation in equity work

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Changes eligibility for program to include qualified mental health associates who commit to serving with a child-caring agency for a minimum of two years.

Deletes qualified mental health associate apprenticeship program development and review of child welfare service provider rates.

BACKGROUND:

Qualified Mental Health Associate (QMHA) means a person delivering services under the direct supervision of a Qualified Mental Health Professional (QMHP) who meets the minimum qualifications as authorized by a Local Mental Health Authority (LMHA). There are two QMHA certification paths provided by the Mental Health & Addiction Certification Board of Oregon.

House Bill 4011 creates qualified mental health associate incentive program for providing loan repayment subsidies through to qualified mental health associates serving children in child-caring agencies.