

Legislative Fiscal Office

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Joint Committee on Ways and Means

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To: Human Services Subcommittee

From: Tom MacDonald, Legislative Fiscal Office

Date: February 23, 2022

Subject: HB 4004 – Relating to financial resources available to provide care
Work Session Recommendations

HB 4004 directs the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to distribute grants to behavioral health providers to increase wages, offer retention bonuses, and hire new staff. OHA must distribute the grants by May 31, 2022. The program sunsets on January 2, 2023.

The measure further directs OHA to contract with nurses and behavioral health professionals to provide care in residential treatment facilities and other programs to address staffing shortages caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. OHA is required to seek federal match if reimbursement is not available from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. This provision sunsets January 2, 2027. The measure also includes permissive language allowing the Oregon Youth Authority to grant existing funds to local units of government, nonprofit organizations, and individuals to ensure the treatment needs of committed youths are adequately met.

The measure previously had hearings in the House Health Care Committee on 2/3/22 and 2/10/22 and was reported out with a do pass recommendation.

The -A4 amendment appropriates \$132.3 million in one-time General Fund to pay for the provider grants. The funding includes the cost of an Operations and Policy Analyst 3 (0.52) position to support the operational requirements of the bill, including grant and contract management.

Recommended Changes

The Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) recommends adoption of the -A4 amendment.

Final Subcommittee Action

LFO recommends that HB 4004, as amended by the -A4 amendment, be moved to the Ways and Means Full Committee.

Carriers

Full Committee: _____

House Floor: _____

Senate Floor: _____