

HB 2578 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Prepared By: Matthew Perreault, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Department of Human Services (DHS), by rule, to establish continuing education requirements for public or private officials who are mandatory reporters of child abuse, elder abuse, long term care resident abuse, and vulnerable adult abuse. Requires that DHS require officials complete continuing education requirements at least once every four years.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon law obligates certain individuals such as doctors, teachers, government employees, elected officials, social workers, and caregivers, who have close contact with potentially vulnerable populations, including children, elders, patients in long term care, and adults with mental illness or developmental disabilities, to report instances of abuse of those populations to law enforcement and the Department of Human Services (DHS). These reports are recorded and investigated by the department, which may pursue criminal charges.

House Bill 2578 directs DHS to implement continuing education requirements for mandatory abuse reporters that would require reporters to complete that education at least once every four years.