

HB 2445 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Prepared By: Brian Nieuburt, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/15

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes independent behavioral health certification entity to certify addiction peer support specialists to work with coordinated care organizations (CCOs) if certification entity is approved by the Oregon Health Authority, accredits the individual as having met specified education and training requirements, and conducts a criminal records check on applicant.

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

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

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Peer support specialists are individuals training to provide supportive services to consumers of mental health or addiction treatment services. In Oregon, peer support specialists are a type of traditional health worker for whom the Oregon Health Authority has approved training programs to become certified. There are currently 12 approved training programs for adult addiction peer support specialists, seven for adult mental health, one for family support, and two for youth.

House Bill 2445 would authorize independent behavioral health certification entities that meets specified requirements to certify addiction peer support specialists to work with coordinated care organizations.