

SB 1074 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/29, 4/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to administer a two-year demonstration project in Marion and Polk Counties designed to improve health and social service outcomes for low-income families. Allows community health workers to be compensated for providing services to families that focus on addressing social determinants of health not otherwise reimbursed. Requires OHA to track data and referrals and conduct assessments of families working with a community health worker to monitor health outcomes. Requires OHA to report to interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to human services on the effectiveness of the demonstration project. Appropriates funds from the general fund. Sunsets January 2, 2028. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

A community health worker (CHW) is an individual with expertise or experience in public health who works in an urban or rural community, either as a volunteer or in association with a local health care system. A CHW may share ethnicity, language, socioeconomic status, or life experience with the residents of the community where the worker serves. A CHW assists members of the community to meet health care needs by providing education and support that is culturally appropriate to the individuals being served, and services such as first aid or blood pressure screening.

Senate bill 1074 directs the Oregon Health Authority to administer a two-year project in Marion and Polk Counties designed to improve health and social service outcomes for low-income families.