

SB 759 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Prepared By: Matthew Perreault, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/8, 5/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Department of Human Services to investigate options for compensating roommates who provide caregiving services to adult with intellectual or developmental disabilities in their home. Directs department to report to interim legislative committees by December 1, 2023 and prescribes report contents. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Has minimal fiscal impact

SENATE VOTE: Ayes, 29; Excused, 1

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon law guarantees the rights of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) to participate in their communities, receive voluntary services, reside in a place of their choosing, and otherwise live independently and seek a meaningful life (ORS 427.107). The law further declares the state's policy to recognize that individuals with IDD and society as a whole benefit when those individuals are given opportunities to exercise choice and self-determination, live and work in their communities, be supported by their families, and receive appropriate services, and outlines a policy framework for the Department of Human Services (DHS) to manage a statewide plan for delivering community-based services to these individuals (ORS 427.007). The Office of Developmental Disability Services (ODDS) within DHS manages home and community-based services for individuals with IDD through Medicaid under the Community First Choice option, or "K Plan," as provided by sections 1915(c) and 1915(k) of the federal Social Security Act and section 2401 of the Affordable Care Act. Oregon is one of five states to provide this type of care to individuals with IDD under its state Medicaid plan.

ODDS provides options for attendant care services that are available for adults with IDD who wish to live independently, in an adult foster home, or with family or friends. Services have eligibility standards and are delivered through local community developmental disabilities programs or support services brokerages. Generally, attendant care services are funded through Medicaid and provided by direct support professionals or personal support workers rather than a family member or roommate, but some individuals may feel more comfortable with the latter while living in their own home or apartment. Programs exist in other states to connect eligible adults with potential roommates who act as caregivers, allowing for increased independence and continuous access to care without the need to live in an adult foster home or residential facility.

Senate Bill 759 A directs DHS to investigate options for providing compensation to roommates of adults with IDD who act as caregivers and requires the agency to report to the legislature by December 1, 2023.