

HB 2732 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

Action Date: 02/09/23

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference.
(Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 10-0-0-0

Yeas: 10 - Andersen, Bynum, Chaichi, Conrad, Kropf, Lewis, Morgan, Reynolds, Tran, Wallan

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/2, 2/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes the Child Abuse Assessment Account that is separate and distinct from the General Fund. States funding sources for the account. Appropriates \$6 million to the account from the General Fund. Directs moneys to be continuously appropriated to the Department of Justice (DOJ) for the purpose of grant programs for Children's Advocacy Centers. Directs the administrator of the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Program (CAMI) to develop and administer a grant program, separate from the current grant program. Allocates moneys to eligible children's advocacy centers, using the same formula used by the Attorney General for equitable distribution of the account for victims' assistance programs, while taking into consideration the size of each children's advocacy center's service area and the associated increased cost of equitably providing services to all victims within that area. Specifies that moneys allocated under this subsection may not be used as replacement revenues for currently available funds previously allocated by the county for children's advocacy centers. Allows the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Program, if unable to distribute any moneys allocated to a specified children's advocacy center, to reallocate the undistributed moneys to one or more other eligible children's advocacy centers or to the statewide membership organization of children's advocacy centers. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provides continuation of funding that was received in 2021 (Christmas tree bill)
- Centers provide statutorily mandated services
- Centers provide support for families, children, and youth impacted by abuse, including critical forensic interviews, medical exams, and therapy
- Community partnerships
- Child-friendly environment with specially trained professionals
- 2021 funding provided medical equipment, updated and expanded facilities, bilingual therapist, and an increase in services

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Allows the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Program, if unable to distribute any moneys allocated to a specified children's advocacy center, to reallocate the undistributed moneys to one or more other eligible children's advocacy centers or to the statewide membership organization of children's advocacy centers.

BACKGROUND:

The Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Program (CAMI) within the Oregon Department of Justice (DOJ) currently allocates funds to eligible county child abuse multidisciplinary teams, and entities designated by such teams, that serve the county where funds were collected. These funds support child abuse investigation training and education for personnel who are not law enforcement, through an existing Child Abuse Multidisciplinary

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Intervention Account. Child abuse intervention centers that provide medical assessments, treatment, and safety, are an integral part of the multidisciplinary approach to prevent and respond to allegations of child abuse.

House Bill 2732 A appropriates \$6 million to DOJ for distribution by CAMI to support local and regional child advocacy centers through a corresponding, discrete Child Abuse Assessment Account.