

## SB 576 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### Senate Committee On Human Services

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**Action Date:** 03/08/23

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

**Vote:** 4-0-1-0

**Yeas:** 4 - Gelser Blouin, Manning Jr, Prozanski, Weber

**Exc:** 1 - Robinson

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

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**Meeting Dates:** 2/8, 3/8

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Department of Human Services (DHS) to administer a program to provide medical assistance to employed individuals with disabilities who qualify for Medicaid and prohibits DHS to determine eligibility based on an individual's income and resources. Permits DHS to only establish an age limit to the extent required under federal law to qualify for the program. Requires DHS to seek federal approval to determine an individual's eligibility for medical assistance without regard to earnings accumulated in a separate account during their participation in said program. Requires DHS to put said program in operation by July 1, 2025. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Workers with disabilities income and asset eligibility for Employed Persons with Disabilities (EPD)
- State of Washington model for paying workers with disabilities and elimination of income and asset limits
- Disability inclusion in the work place and increasing job opportunities for individuals with disabilities

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Requires Department of Human Services to put program to provide medical assistance to employed individuals with disabilities in operation by July 1, 2025. Permits the Department of Human Services to only establish an age limit to the extent required under federal law to qualify for the program. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

#### BACKGROUND:

The Supplemental Security Income program provides monthly payments to adults and children with a disability or blindness who have income and resources below specific financial limits (less than \$1,913 per month in wages or self-employment for an individual and less than \$2,827 for a couple; less than \$934 income from pensions or gifts per month for an individual and less than \$1,391 for a couple). Oregon Health Plan eligibility is determined based on several factors, including income. The maximum monthly income for an adult is \$1,507 or \$2,004 for a couple. The Employed Persons with Disabilities program provides or continues medical coverage and long-term services to people with disabilities who are working or want to work. To qualify for the program, individuals need to have countable resources of \$5,000 or less and earned income of no more than 250 percent of the federal poverty level after allowed deductions.

Senate Bill 576 A directs the Department of Human Services to administer a program that would provide medical assistance to employed individuals with disabilities who qualify for Medicaid without considering their income or resources.