

SB 624 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 04/03/23

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

Vote: 5-0-1-0

Yeas: 5 - Bonham, Campos, Hayden, Patterson, President Wagner

Exc: 1 - Gorsek

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/20, 4/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to establish a certified community behavioral health clinic (CCBHC) program for the purpose of certifying clinics to receive payment at prospective fixed cost-based rates. Requires CCBHCs, either directly or by referral through formal relationships with other providers, to provide certain services, including outpatient mental health and substance use disorder services, 24-hour mobile crisis services, screening and risk assessment, patient-centered treatment planning, targeted case management, psychiatric rehabilitation services, peer support and counseling services, family support services, and specified access to primary care. Specifies criteria for OHA to fund and to adjust payment rates to CCBHCs sufficient to reimburse costs of required services, consistent with federal program requirements and ensuring coordination to minimize service redundancies.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Behavioral health care needs in Oregon communities
- Provisions of the measure

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

In 2014, Oregon become one of eight states accepted to a demonstration program to test strategies to improve accessibility, quality, and outcomes in community mental health centers that are certified as certified community behavioral health clinics (CCBHCs). In Oregon, CCHBCs are overseen by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), and twelve clinics were certified as CCBHCs when Oregon's demonstration program began on April 1, 2017.

In 2021, the Oregon legislature directed OHA to evaluate whether CCBHCs increase access to behavioral health treatment, integrate physical and behavioral health care, improve health outcomes, lower health care costs, improve overall community health, and reduce the cost of care for coordinated care organization members. OHA contracted with a team at the Oregon Health and Science University – Portland State University (OHSU-PSU) School of Public Health to conduct the evaluation. Among other recommendations, the OHSU-PSU report suggested expanding the program to include a CCBHC in every Oregon county. The report also recommended clearer standards for primary and behavioral care coordination and integration.

Senate Bill 624 A establishes a certified community behavioral health clinic program in Oregon Health Authority.