

Requested by Representative PHAM H

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO  
HOUSE BILL 2979**

1 On page 2 of the printed bill, after line 4, insert:

2 “(4) The department may retain, from any disbursement made to the de-  
3 partment for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of this section, an  
4 amount necessary to cover costs incurred by the department in administering  
5 the grant program described in this section. Administration costs may in-  
6 clude, but are not limited to, any outreach conducted by the department and  
7 personnel necessary to administer the grant program.”.

8 In line 5, delete “(4)” and insert “(5)”.

9 Delete lines 12 through 19 and insert:

10 **“SECTION 5. (1) As used in this section, ‘dental professional’ in-**  
11 **cludes dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, dental therapists**  
12 **and dental health aides.**

13 **“(2) The Oregon Health Authority shall, through the health care**  
14 **provider incentive program created under ORS 676.454 and in consul-**  
15 **tation with the Office of Rural Health, issue grants to support and**  
16 **increase the recruitment and retention of dental professionals in all**  
17 **regions of this state. The authority may issue grants to federally**  
18 **qualified health centers and other employers of dental professionals**  
19 **that provide dental care in underserved areas of this state.**

20 **“(3) In issuing grants under this section, the authority shall prior-**  
21 **itize recruitment and retention of dental professionals in rural areas,**

1 **low-income communities and tribal communities.”.**

2 Delete lines 24 through 32 and insert:

3 **“SECTION 7. (1) The Oregon Health Authority shall develop and**  
4 **implement an education and mentoring program to promote the entry**  
5 **into dental professions by members of federally recognized Indian**  
6 **tribes in Oregon.**

7 **“(2) The authority may carry out its duty under this section by**  
8 **entering into an agreement with a federally recognized Indian tribe in**  
9 **this state or a tribal organization, as defined in the Indian Self-**  
10 **Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975 (P.L. 93-638), in**  
11 **this state to develop and implement the program described in sub-**  
12 **section (1) of this section.”.**

13 Delete lines 37 through 45 and delete page 3 and insert:

14 **“SECTION 9. (1) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission**  
15 **shall develop and maintain a website to provide information about**  
16 **dental assistant training and certification, including information**  
17 **about eligibility requirements and other requirements of the Oregon**  
18 **Board of Dentistry, required core education competencies and a list**  
19 **of existing resources for dental assistant training programs and edu-**  
20 **cation modules. The website must be available free of cost to all den-**  
21 **tists licensed to practice in this state.**

22 **“(2) The commission shall convene, and facilitate discussion among,**  
23 **relevant stakeholders in developing and maintaining the website de-**  
24 **scribed in subsection (1) of this section. The stakeholders may include,**  
25 **but are not limited to, representatives of dental assistant education**  
26 **programs at community colleges in this state and dental professional**  
27 **associations.**

28 **“(3) The commission, in consultation with the stakeholders de-**  
29 **scribed in subsection (2) of this section, shall provide financial assist-**  
30 **ance to individuals seeking access to existing online dental assistant**

1 **training materials and resources.**

2 **“(4) The commission may adopt rules to carry out this section.**

3 **“SECTION 10. There is appropriated to the Higher Education Coor-**  
4 **dinating Commission, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of**  
5 **the General Fund, the amount of \$2,000,000 for the purpose of carrying**  
6 **out the provisions of section 9 of this 2023 Act.”.**

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