

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

HB 2697

Relating to staffing plans for health care provider entities

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Human Services Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Campos

House Bill 2697 mandates hospitals to establish committees and staffing plans, following specific criteria. Nurse-to-patient ratios are defined and must be implemented by hospitals before September 1, 2023. Committees must be formed by December 31, 2024. Staffing plan and rest break violation complaints can be submitted to the Oregon Health Authority or the Bureau of Labor and Industries on June 1, 2025, and civil penalties for violations can be imposed by both organizations from the same date.

The -A6 amendment expands the definition of registered nurses, grants the Oregon Health Authority and the Bureau of Labor and Industries rule-making authority, increases the nurse-to-patient ratio in medical-surgical units from 1:5 to 1:4, adds meal and rest break requirements, imposes a four-year time period for OHA to issue civil penalties for violations, specifies effective dates and compliance deadlines for various requirements outlined in the measure, and adds \$1,980,571 in General Fund appropriation to the OHA budget and \$188,577 in General Fund appropriation to the BOLI budget for the 2023-25 biennium.

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends HB 2697 be amended by the –A6 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.