HB 4140 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

Action Date: 02/15/24

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference.

(Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 9-0-1-0

Yeas: 9 - Andersen, Bynum, Chaichi, Kropf, Lewis, Reynolds, Tran, Wallan, Yunker

Exc: 1 - Conrad

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued **Revenue:** No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/6, 2/13, 2/15

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure directs the Department of Justice (DOJ) to include discrete amounts in its budget request for the next biennium that are necessary for funding the projected costs of state support for children's advocacy centers, the Survivor Housing Funds Grant program, its successor program, and the Oregon Domestic and Sexual Violence Services Fund. Allows the amounts to include a maximum of 10 percent for DOJ's administrative costs. Directs children's advocacy centers to submit reports to the DOJ in even numbered years for projected costs of operation for the next biennium, along with estimates of funding from all other sources. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Services have been funded on one-time bases
- Estimated funding requests
- Types of services provided by children's advocacy centers
- Senate Bill 1579 (2024)

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

Detailed Summary

The amendment directs that the DOJ's budget request for the next biennium include specific amounts that are necessary for state support of the programs, and it allocates a maximum of 10 percent for the DOJ's administrative costs. It also directs children's advocacy centers to submit reports to the DOJ in even numbered years for projected costs of operation for the next biennium, along with estimates of funding from all other sources.

BACKGROUND:

The Department of Justice is responsible for a several programs that provide support to crime victims. The <u>Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division</u> (CVSSD) compensates victims of violent crime for losses they sustain as a result of criminal actions. CVSSD administers and monitors grants from eight major funds, providing partial funding to a myriad of nonprofit and system-based victims' programs across the state.

The DOJ also manages the <u>Oregon Domestic and Sexual Violence Services Fund</u> (ODSVS), which supports a program that serves victims of domestic violence and sexual assault services. Those services include:

- Safety and advocacy services for victims;
- Promoting cooperation among agencies for services; and

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• Providing programs and services for teen dating violence, domestic violence education, and victim assistance.

Children's advocacy centers (CACs) provide child abuse assessments to determine whether the child has been abused or neglected, as well as facilitate a coordinated, comprehensive and multidisciplinary response to cases of child abuse. CACs do not charge families a fee for their services, but may bill private insurance, the Oregon Health Plan, or Crime Victim's Compensation (CVC). CVC may cover an eligible child's crime-related counseling, medical bills, rehabilitation services, and mileage reimbursement. CVC additionally may cover counseling for eligible parents and caregivers of abused children, as well as lost wages of a parent or guardian who is providing care for the victim while they are healing from the abuse.