A-Engrossed

House Bill 4070

Ordered by the House February 15
Including House Amendments dated February 15

Sponsored by Representative DEXTER, Senator SOLLMAN, Representatives REYNOLDS, BOWMAN, BYNUM, NELSON, NOSSE, RUZ, Senators DEMBROW, GELSER BLOUIN; Representatives CONRAD, GAMBA, GRAYBER, HUDSON, JAVADI, LIVELY, PHAM H, WALTERS, Senators GORSEK, PATTERSON (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor’s brief statement of the essential features of the measure. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act tells the OHA to adjust its school-based health center grants for inflation. The Act tells the OHA to issue grants and take other actions to increase school-based health services. The Act authorizes lottery bonds for school-based health services. (Flesch Readability Score: 66.4).

Directs the Oregon Health Authority to modify the amounts of grants for school-based health centers for inflation.

Directs the authority to issue grants for the planning and operation of school-based health services.

Directs the authority to develop and implement a program to issue grants to increase and improve school-based mental health services and substance use services.

Directs the authority to study methods for providing or increasing reimbursement for mental health services delivered through school-based health centers.

Authorizes the issuance of lottery bonds for school-based health center purposes.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to schools.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) Grants awarded to school-based health centers by the Oregon Health Authority under ORS 413.225 (4)(a) must be for a minimum annual amount of $66,000, adjusted under subsection (2) of this section.

(2) To account for effects of inflation, the authority shall, by rule, annually adjust the dollar amount specified in subsection (1) of this section based on the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, West Region (All Items), as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor.

SECTION 2. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Oregon Health Authority, for the biennium ending June 30, 2025, out of the General Fund, the amount of $570,000 to carry out the provisions of section 1 of this 2024 Act.

SECTION 3. (1) As used in this section:

(a) “School-based health center” has the meaning given that term in ORS 413.225.

(b) “School nurse model” means a model for providing school-based health services that is in accord with guidance from the division of the Oregon Health Authority that addresses adolescent health.

(2) The authority, in consultation with the Department of Education, shall select 10
school districts or education service districts to receive planning grants for district planning and technical assistance. Each district receiving a grant, beginning on or after January 1, 2025, and concluding before July 1, 2026, shall:

(a) Evaluate the need for school-based health services in the community of the district; and

(b) Develop a school-based health services plan that addresses the need identified in paragraph (a) of this subsection.

(3) The authority shall contract with a nonprofit organization with experience in facilitating school health planning initiatives and supporting school-based health centers in order to facilitate and oversee the planning process and to provide technical assistance to grantees to reduce costs and ensure better coordination and continuity statewide. To the greatest extent practicable, the nonprofit organization shall engage with culturally specific organizations in the grantees’ communities that have experience providing culturally and linguistically specific services in schools or after-school programs.

(4) Each grantee shall solicit community participation in the planning process, including, without limitation, the participation of the local public health authority, any federally qualified health centers located in the district, a regional health equity coalition, if any, serving the district and every coordinated care organization with members residing in the district.

(5) At the conclusion of the planning process, the authority shall issue additional grants to appropriate recipients to operate a school-based health center or school nurse model in each respective grantee school district or education service district.

SECTION 4. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Oregon Health Authority, for the biennium ending June 30, 2025, out of the General Fund, the amount of $700,000 to carry out the provisions of section 3 of this 2024 Act.

SECTION 5. The Oregon Health Authority shall develop and implement a grant program to issue grants to school districts, education service districts and entities that provide physical or behavioral health services to be used to increase and improve school-based mental health services and substance use prevention, screening, referral and treatment services. The authority shall ensure that grants are made for the benefit of schools both with and without school-based health centers, as defined in ORS 413.225.

SECTION 6. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Oregon Health Authority, for the biennium ending June 30, 2025, out of the General Fund, the amount of $7,850,000 to carry out the provisions of section 5 of this 2024 Act.

SECTION 7. (1) The Oregon Health Authority shall study methods for providing or increasing reimbursement for mental health services delivered through school-based health centers, as defined in ORS 413.225, under medical assistance programs administered by the authority.

(2) The authority may make written recommendations to the Legislative Assembly in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, which may include recommendations for legislation, including continuation or expansion of funding provided under sections 5 and 6 of this 2024 Act.

(3) The authority may adopt rules to support reimbursements described in subsection (1) of this section.

SECTION 8. (1) For the biennium ending June 30, 2025, at the request of the Oregon
Health Authority, the State Treasurer is authorized to issue lottery bonds pursuant to ORS 286A.560 to 286A.585 in an amount that produces $10 million in net proceeds for the purposes described in subsection (2) of this section, plus an additional amount estimated by the State Treasurer to be necessary to pay bond-related costs.

(2) Net proceeds of lottery bonds issued under this section must be transferred to the authority for:

(a) Construction and renovation of school-based health centers;

(b) Equipment needs of school-based health centers;

(c) Construction of modular school-based health centers for provision to school districts or education service districts; and

(d) Provision of grants to school districts, education service districts or school-based health center medical sponsors for school-based health center purposes.

(3) The Legislative Assembly finds that the use of lottery bond proceeds will create jobs, further economic development, finance public education or restore and protect parks, beaches, watersheds and native fish and wildlife, and is authorized based on the finding that improving access to school-based health resources will improve educational outcomes and create jobs.