

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 5: Oregon Health Authority Community Mental Health Services

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Human Services Subcommittee
Carrier: Representative Valderrama

The Human Services Subcommittee heard a request from the Oregon Health Authority for retroactive approval to submit a federal grant application for community mental health services.

The grant application is for one-time supplemental funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration through the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant program. The application deadline was September 3, 2025. The grant funding period is for federal fiscal year 2026.

The supplemental funding is intended to support capacity-building and strategic collaboration efforts addressing the nexus of homelessness and serious mental illness, particularly among individuals involved in civil commitment processes and assisted outpatient treatment programs. The Oregon Health Authority's presentation noted that it received notice of grant funding award in the amount of \$359,589 on September 17th; a \$57,391 increase from the original estimated allocation of funding applied for. OHA intends to use the funding for a limited-duration position to help establish a program serving individuals involved in the civil commitment process or under aid and assist orders to transition into permanent supportive housing.

OHA intends to request position and expenditure authority as part of the agency's Fall budget rebalance. No state matching funds, or maintenance of effort are required.

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means retroactively approve the submission of a federal grant application by the Oregon Health Authority to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration in the amount of \$302,198, for community mental health services.