

# SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

## **Item 2: Oregon Health Authority Rural Health Transformation**

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

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The Human Services Subcommittee heard a request from the Oregon Health Authority for retroactive approval to submit a federal grant application to support rural communities in improving healthcare access, quality, and outcomes.

The Rural Health Transformation program is intended to promote innovation, strategic partnerships, infrastructure development, and workforce development in rural communities to improve healthcare access, quality, and outcomes. The grant application seeks up to \$200 million per-year over a five-year period. OHA has outlined five initiatives that address the program's strategic goals. In developing these initiatives, OHA hosted multiple virtual public forums, convened meetings with select associations, entities, and rural health care experts, and conducted a public survey to assess unmet needs, challenges, and possible projects that align with the program's permissible uses of funds.

The application deadline was November 5, 2025. OHA provided notification of its intent to apply for the grant funding on October 21, 2025. There are no state cost-sharing requirements associated with the funding.

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 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in the amount of up to \$1 billion, over a period of five years, to support rural communities in improving healthcare access, quality, and outcomes.