

SB 1016 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Human Services

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Meeting Dates: 2/20, 3/25, 4/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure prohibits the Department of Human Services from using trash bags to transport a foster child's personal effects and modifies requirements for the department to report to the legislature on the use of trash bags.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Expectation for the department to respond at a future date
- Impact of previous legislation
- Rights of children and youth in foster care
- Health and sanitation concerns

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 The amendment replaces the measure. The amendment permanently requires the Department of Human Services (ODHS) to maintain a supply of appropriate carriers for child welfare case workers to use when transporting a foster child's personal effects. The amendment prohibits ODHS from using trash bags to transport a foster child's personal effects. The amendment specifies additional requirements for ODHS to report to the legislature on the use of luggage carriers and trash bags.

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Has minimal fiscal impact

BACKGROUND:

Children and youth in foster care may experience multiple out-of-home placements. According to the Department of Human Services' [dashboard on federal performance measures](#), in 2024, foster children in Oregon experienced an average of 4.5 placements per 1,000 days in care, which is the maximum federal standard and reflects a decline from previous years.

In 2023, in response to reports that department staff were providing children with trash bags to transport their belongings while changing foster care placements, the legislature passed [Senate Bill 548](#). That bill required the department to maintain a supply of luggage carriers for foster children to use when moving placements, and to [report](#) on the luggage carrier inventory and any instances of the use of trash bags.