

**SB 945 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Rep. Diehl

**House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care**

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**Action Date:** 05/06/25

**Action:** Do Pass.

**Vote:** 9-0-0-0

**Yeas:** 9 - Diehl, Harbick, Isadore, Javadi, McIntire, Munoz, Nelson, Nosse, Pham H

**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

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**Meeting Dates:** 4/15, 5/6

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

The measure provides medical assistance eligibility to individuals under age 26 who live in Oregon, have aged out of foster care, and were previously enrolled in medical assistance in any state. The measure directs the Oregon Health Authority to seek federal matching funds for the costs of providing medical assistance to this population.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Access health insurance coverage
- Fiscal implication of expanding coverage to include former foster youth who have moved to Oregon
- Eligibility criteria for former foster youth to qualify for coverage

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Oregon Health Plan (OHP), Oregon’s medical assistance program, was initially implemented in 1994. OHP members receive coverage for health services through enrollment in a coordinated care organization, or as fee-for-service, or "open card" coverage. OHP provides coverage to children and teenagers under the age of 19 who meet eligibility criteria, including primary and preventive care, behavioral health, dental, and vision services.

Youth enrolled in foster care are eligible for their state's medical assistance program. The Affordable Care Act expanded eligibility to include individuals up to the age of 26 who were formerly in foster care, provided that the individual was enrolled in foster care in the same state where they seek medical assistance. In Oregon, benefits are provided to this population through the Former Foster Care Youth Medical Program.

Senate Bill 945 provides medical assistance eligibility to individuals under age 26 who live in Oregon, have aged out of foster care, and were previously enrolled in medical assistance in any state.