

HB 2375 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Health Care

Prepared By: Oliver Droppers, LPRO Analyst

Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 4/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires hospitals and pediatric health care facilities to have plans, approved by Oregon Health Authority, for treating sexual assault survivors who present in need of medical forensic services or for transferring sexual assault survivors to hospital or approved pediatric health care facility for medical forensic services. Requires authority to adopt rules for treatment and transfer plans. Requires facilities that provide medical forensic services to provide sexual assault survivors with vouchers to pay for services related to sexual assault that are not paid from Sexual Assault Victims' Emergency Medical Response Fund. Prohibits health care providers from billing sexual assault survivors for specified services related to sexual assault. Authorizes authority to impose civil penalties of up to \$500 for each violation.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Replaces measure. Adds a sexual assault nurse examiner or a representative of a hospital to a sexual assault response team in each county.

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

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

BACKGROUND:

In Oregon, district attorneys of each county are required to organize sexual assault response team (SART), which must meet quarterly, and have protocols in place to address sexual assault response. The SARTs must consist of a representative of a prosecution-based victim assistance program, a sexual assault forensic examiner, a representative of the county sheriff's office or local law enforcement, and a nonprofit agency that receives public funding and offer support services to victims of sexual assault. SARTs are required to meet quarterly.

Currently, certain types of health care facilities are required to have policies for treating sexual assault patients that such as performing forensic medical examinations or employing or contracting with sexual assault forensic examiner that is certified by the Oregon Sex Assault Examiner/Sex Assault Nurse Examiner Certification Commission. In 2011, the Legislative Assembly, enacted Senate Bill 557 to standardize investigation and treatment protocols across Oregon's 36 counties.

House Bill 2375 modifies the membership of county sexual assault response teams in Oregon