
Oregon Health Authority Measure Summary

Travel Stipends for Oregon Consumer Advisory Council Members

SB 229

Concept: This concept will permit members of the Oregon Consumer Advisory Council (OCAC) to receive a stipend and travel reimbursement. This will align the compensation and expense reimbursement for members of OCAC with other AMH Advisory Councils.

Need for Policy Change: The current statute explicitly prohibits the payment of stipends or reimbursement for travel expenses for members of OCAC. Individuals experiencing mental health and addiction disorders have higher rates of poverty than individuals without a behavioral health disorder. The rates of poverty increase even more for racial and ethnic minorities. Providing expenditure reimbursement and compensation for participation on the OCAC is vital to ensuring meaningful participation from racial and ethnic minority consumers of behavioral health services and their family members.

Impact if Not Approved: If this concept is not approved participation in OCAC will continue to be a financial burden for members and broad representation will be negatively impacted.

Other Supporters:

- Oregon Consumer Advisory Council
- Addictions and Mental Health Advisory Committee

Fiscal Impact: The fiscal impact will be entirely covered by the Mental Health Block Grant.

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