



## Agenda/Notes

Office of Governor Tina Kotek

RJC Health Equity and Human Services Committee

May 21, 2025 – Zoom

3:00 – 4:30 pm

Moderator – Javier Cervantes

### MEMBERS

E	Annie Valtierra-Sanchez	X	Elizur Bello	X	Josie Silverman-Mendez
	Bahaa Wanly	X	Jackie Leung	E	Marin Arreola
	Coi Vu, CCHC		Jayln Suppah	X	Tae-Sun Kim
X	Dolores Martinez		Jeremiah Rigsby		

### OTHER ATTENDEES

	Andre Bealer	X	Yasmin Solorio	X	Rachel Currans-Henry
X	Kristina Narayan		Amy Baker	X	April Rohman
X	Javier Cervantes				

Topic/Lead	Notes/Main Points	Decisions/Action Items
<b>Budget forecast Review</b> (Marin & Policy Advisors)	<p><i>Kristina shares power point RJC HEC Sub</i></p> <p><b>Kristina:</b> There's a smattering of rebalance bills for this biennium. We just had the May forecast release.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Revenue projection is down, less than what we thought based on 23-25 costs we have to account for the rebalance.</li><li>House/Senate is voting on the full reconciliation package.</li><li>Looking at least \$7 billion in cuts to Medicaid over 10 years of cuts are enacted as being presented.</li><li>When more people are uninsured, costs don't go away. They are absorbed elsewhere.</li><li>\$993 million a biennium in SNAP reductions will strip families of their dignity and cut meals for children. It is a cost that they are asking for states that will have impacts resulting in people not having food.</li><li>Cost sharing impacts, people often are enrolled in several programs (such as Medicaid, snap, etc.).</li></ul> <p><b>Rachel:</b> We have heard from the senate they are not in agreement with the house proposal. That is important as we think about what is next. There will need to be a process where the senate has to reconcile. Don't have certainty on what that timeline would be.</p>	Registration link to ODHS and OHA webinar to be shared out to committee

	<p><b>Kristina:</b> Working to update materials for external partners, especially for those doing advocacy.</p> <p><b>Rachel:</b> Important we acknowledge that we are talking about these federal budget updates of the purpose of advocacy and letting folks know it will be harmful for people in the state. These are proposals at the federal level, our state budget is due at the end of June. We don't know what the timing will be at the federal level. Congress is still assessing what and how of these changes they will accept or not accept. We need to focus on an advocacy perspective to let voices be heard, it will affect families at the state level. Also note federal changes will take time. Waiver continues as is until expiration date. Depending on what rules are in place could guide what we do with our waiver.</p> <p><b>Josie:</b> We do have some protection based on waiver?</p> <p><b>Rachel:</b> Correct</p> <p><b>Josie:</b> There will be a webinar next week by OHA and DHS correct?</p> <p><b>Rachel:</b> Agency leaders want to engage with community leaders and community partners. Will present high level updates on federal impacts and provide updates on how to advocate. You've heard a shorthand today, might see more updates and grounded in terms of programs we serve. Making sure there specifics on impacts for long term care community and ensure they can tailor question sand feedback to those populations.</p> <p><a href="https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_eH9LKGXRTw-LCR-2B4aY5w#/registration">https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_eH9LKGXRTw-LCR-2B4aY5w#/registration</a></p>	
<p><b>Updates</b>  <b>a) Legislative</b>  <b>b) Federal impact</b>          (Kristina/Rachel/April)</p>	<p><b>Josie:</b> Marin and I drafted a letter based on bills for the RJC process. Will need to update that language due to the revenue forecast on how we framed some of this. At the outset, what are we concerned about that might be on the chopping block given forecast update.</p> <p><b>Rachel:</b> What's important based on committee priorities, governor is committed and continuing to advocate for GRB investments for education, housing, and behavioral health. We need to continue partnering with co-chairs and those asks. We want to recognize that its important that these are needed investments. I do anticipate there will continue to be some level of investment and ask. Likely discussion of magnitude.</p>	

	<p><b>April:</b> Appreciate that this committee’s priority is in alignment with governor’s priorities. Echoing Rachael in how far the dollar will stretch given smaller budgets to work with. Always helpful to help direct and remind people on different intersecting priorities.</p> <p><b>Josie:</b> Want to share a comment for the folks doing advocacy work, on behalf of Healthier Oregon Program (HOP), its lost that not everyone on HOP is an undocumented immigrant. The number of undocumented immigrants is so small, compared to overall impacts to Medicaid cuts as an overall state we will feel. Just needed to say that out loud today.</p> <p><b>Rachel:</b> For awareness, since we talk about HOP, the way that the house bill gets at reduction for states, they target for states in particular if a state offered healthcare for all people. If you are a state that offers healthcare to all people, you see that on the SNAP side as well in policy proposals. Excluding immigrant and refugee and limiting snap for asylum seekers and those for humanitarians and paroles.</p> <p><b>Tae-Sun:</b> Hypocritical and contradictory to some of the other EO’s, which are deliberately targeting programs that are too narrow and discriminatory to all candidates. It’s a cherry picking of where inclusive coverage is lawful or unlawful, depending on who is stigmatized and targeted population is.</p> <p><b>Javier:</b> Maintain GRB as intact as possible, she is not unwavering the recommended budget. In addition to numbers Kristina shared.</p> <p><b>Josie:</b> Good to connect with our letter as well.</p> <p><b>Rachel:</b> I hope everyone saw the post of the article in the chat regarding the governor’s statement form the Willamette Week, like questioning HOP coverage. Governor’s recommended budget continues to support HOP. She noted she is not in a place where we should make changes to that program.  <a href="https://www.wweek.com/news/state/2025/05/19/kotek-says-shes-reluctant-to-mirror-california-proposal-to-reduce-health-care-for-undocumented-immigrants/">https://www.wweek.com/news/state/2025/05/19/kotek-says-shes-reluctant-to-mirror-california-proposal-to-reduce-health-care-for-undocumented-immigrants/</a></p>	
<p><b>Letter Review</b>  a) Review for language on values and prioritization  b) Note: June 26, 2025</p>	<p><b>Tae-Sun:</b> Is there another place where Governor Kotek’s position on HOP is published somewhere? My organization does a report out and would be good to give them a heads up on the temperature.</p>	<p>Rachel to share the racial equity analysis.</p>

**Rachael:** That Willamette Week article is a good place to start.

*Committee reviews letter draft.*

**Rachel:** We no longer are making changes to the school setting based on the new language.

**Tae-Sun:** What data do we have to show the impact of these Senate and house bills will impact lives of Oregonians of color? Transparency check.

**Rachel:** That's a really important question, for HB3835 – I do have a GARE racial equity analysis on that bill where we went through that proposal. I can share out the details of that in writing. They did go through racial demographics and impact the bill would have. Want to note we do have a disproportionate number of children that are non-white and have different racial impacts, can get you that data as well. There is also a requirement to meet with ICWA requirements. Those are areas in particular, can get that data to you as well.

**Tae-Sun:** OHA is requiring healthcare organizations gather really invasive data and now sharing what it's for.

**Josie:** Would like real updates on how some of these implementations are going and important for our committee to have an understanding as well.

**April:** Just talking about some of the programs that are intentionally designed or assist with BIPOC entering in the workforce. Some of the licensing programs entering MACBO.

**Rachel:** The new report on the Workforce Talent Assessment has a lot of the demographic breakdown.

*Josie to share information on draft report recently saw.*

**Rachel:** Gave you both bill numbers for OHA and DHS, as a reminder for folks, that OHA has a majority of the health care plan and DHS has all of the eligibility to ensure they can do operations.

**Tae-Sun:** Would love to learn more on HB3835, how use of restrains are used and how they are investigated. Not just for kids but also for adults. Would like to learn more in future meeting. Overly per scripted bills can create more harm, even though that's not the intention.

**Rachel:** That's part of what we are trying to fix. We have

had a history of highly regulated and overly per scripted standards, especially for those childcare providers and how they serve kids. Right now, laws are written where we are not just investigating for licensing, we are investigating individual actions as child abuse, and licensing investigations. That's what's causing a harm and a chilling effect – where they are trying to keep kids safe, and they are being investigated due to state side. If you're overly per scripted, it caused more harm. Governor did testify on that bill in house rules. We can share that testimony as well.

**Tae-Sun:** Would not feel comfortable supporting this bill without knowing the implementation. That implementation and putting pauses to evaluate if implementation literally produced outcomes we are looking for and if not, how do we make sure there is ample time to readjust and modify.

**Rachel:** We do have a coalition of hospitals who have signed on as well so you can see that and answer those questions.

**Josie:** What you said Tae-Sun is really resonating with me. Not just advocate for those policy changes but are they having intended impacts over time that we want them to. As we look at workplan moving forward, what are those key priorities we want to look at and evaluate what might need to be adjusted or kept in practice. What's the timeline for edits to be done?

**Rachel:** We are in the final 40 days of session. Sooner the better to have voices heard.

**Tae-Sun:** Because deadline is just a month away, in terms of process, before these House Bills become law, what is the typical stakeholder comment period? Would love to see how the providers respond to some of these bills and give them an opportunity to say, "Yes this sounds great but here are areas of implementation that might be barriers to that law". As providers, we are told follow the law, not the spirit of the bill. We will comply with the *letter* of the bill.

**Josie:** You can see different positions online.

**Tae-Sun;** I'm talking about the practitioners or implementors.

**Rachel:** What we're looking at here are the Governor's priority bills, for the state, GRB. These are all the state

	<p>policy bills that also carry the governor’s recommendations. That is what you have that is on your list where we went through.</p> <p><b>Tae-Sun:</b> Knowling my own facilities that would have to implement these bills, I want to make sure we are dotting our I’s and crossing our Ts.</p> <p><b>Josie:</b> For HB 3835, there has been a lot of stakeholder engagement. Want to talk about that?</p> <p><b>Rachel:</b> Part of the history back in 2019 we created the system of care advisory committee. Came out after Governor Brown created a children’s cabinet. It’s a 25% council consisting of those providers, youth and family voice.</p> <p><b>Josie:</b> Anything on budget forecast we need to call out?</p> <p><b>Rachel:</b> My sense on this is I don’t think you need to make adjustments, as you’re identifying critical investment your stating are important.</p> <p><b>Josie:</b> Kristina will need to review this as well.</p> <p><i>Tae-Sun, Elizur, Jackie, Dolores – comfortable with letter as proposed.</i></p> <p><b>Josie:</b> Would love to have it done by Friday is possible.</p> <p><b>Javier:</b> Yasmin will upload to google doc, as soon as possible after the 844 language.</p> <p><b>Tae-Sun:</b> Hyperlinking bills and data to ensure. We need to be able to withstand that scrutiny with integrity of the council.</p> <p><b>Josie:</b> Weren’t all of these bills put through a racial justice equity lens? Could we refresh that to the committee?</p> <p><b>Rachel:</b> Yes, that was about a year ago when we looked at that equity analysis on how these proposals were developed. We have that in terms of priorities and GRB.</p>	
<b>Workplan Review</b>	<p><b>Josie:</b> The workplan is pretty out of date, what are those priority areas we want to dive into and ask agencies for updates, where does governor need ongoing advice for this committee. In last few minutes what would be a good use of plan.</p> <p><i>Javier shares workplan</i></p>	

	<p><b>Josie:</b> As we are supporting policy changes, getting regular updates on implantation plan and how it is going – would like to do that across the board and be more organized on how we approach it. Maybe you, me, Javier, and Yasmin work to update it and go through it with more detail. It spans all priority areas.</p>	
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<p><b>Meeting Materials</b></p>	<p>Reminder: Ethics / Conflict of Interest Training – 1:30pm on May 30<sup>th</sup></p> <p>ODHS and OHA Webinar: <a href="https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_eH9LKGXRTw-LCR-2B4aY5w#/registration">https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_eH9LKGXRTw-LCR-2B4aY5w#/registration</a></p> <p>Oregon Behavioral Health Talent Assessment: <a href="https://www.oregon.gov/highered/strategy-research/Documents/Reports/2025-Oregon-Behavioral-Health-Talent-Assessment-Report-final.pdf">https://www.oregon.gov/highered/strategy-research/Documents/Reports/2025-Oregon-Behavioral-Health-Talent-Assessment-Report-final.pdf</a></p>
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### Zoom Chat

5:04:09 From Javier Cervantes, Gov. Office (El, He, Him, His) to Hosts and panelists:

- Budget forecast Review (Marin & Policy Advisors)
- Updates (Kristina/Rachel/Amy/KC/April)
  - o Legislative
  - o Federal impact
- Letter Review (Committee and Policy Advisors)
  - o Review for language on values and prioritization
  - o Note: Presiding Officers presenting and attending the March 20, 2025 RJC meeting
- Workplan Review (All)

15:05:15 From Kristina Narayan (OR) \*Gov to Hosts and panelists:

I have a standing conflict that i will jet off for at 3:20, apologies

15:08:28 From Javier Cervantes, Gov. Office (El, He, Him, His) to Hosts and panelists:

- Budget forecast Review (Marin & Policy Advisors)
- Updates (Kristina/Rachel/Amy/KC/April)
  - o Legislative
  - o Federal impact
- Letter Review (Committee and Policy Advisors)
  - o Review for language on values and prioritization
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- Workplan Review (All)

15:16:39 From Kristina Narayan (OR) \*Gov to Hosts and panelists:

Part of the big hit to the state Medicaid program is a reimbursement penalty for reimburseable Medicaid services due to the state covering individuals on the HOP program.

15:17:13 From Kristina Narayan (OR) \*Gov to Hosts and panelists:

The governor had a statement worth sharing, see here: <https://www.wweek.com/news/state/2025/05/19/kotek-says-shes-reluctant-to-mirror-california-proposal-to-reduce-health-care-for-undocumented-immigrants/>

15:17:27 From Josie Silverman-Mendez (she/her), Willamette Health Council to Hosts and panelists:

Do we know how proposed federal policy changes for Medicaid will interact w/ our current waiver (e.g., continuous eligibility for children in Oregon)?

15:17:43 From Kristina Narayan (OR) \*Gov to Hosts and panelists:

continuous eligibility expires in 2027

15:17:54 From Kristina Narayan (OR) \*Gov to Hosts and panelists:

proposed budget would impose the eligibility checks in 29

15:18:01 From Josie Silverman-Mendez (she/her), Willamette Health Council to Hosts and panelists:

Got it

15:18:04 From Kristina Narayan (OR) \*Gov to Hosts and panelists:

don't quote me on the dates, but essentially ours sunsets this applies

15:18:30 From Kristina Narayan (OR) \*Gov to Hosts and panelists:

For now we are not seeing any interruptions to waiver funding (DSHP) within this current period.

15:21:20 From Kristina Narayan (OR) \*Gov to Hosts and panelists:

Oops, need to run. We will definitely share analysis with RJC.

15:26:04 From Josie Silverman-Mendez (she/her), Willamette Health Council to Hosts and panelists:

Dear valued partner,

Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) and Oregon Health Authority (OHA) warmly invite you to attend an hour-long webinar that will provide an opportunity to connect with us and receive updates about federal changes impacting Oregon.

Details:

Thurs., May 29, 2025

Virtual via Zoom

English: 10 to 11 a.m. (Pacific Time); Spanish: 2 to 3 p.m. (Pacific Time)

Registration links:

English – [https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_eH9LKGXRTw-LCR-2B4aY5w](https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_eH9LKGXRTw-LCR-2B4aY5w)

What to expect:

All participant microphones will be muted.

There will be an option to submit written questions.

This webinar will not be recorded.

Materials shared during the webinar will be e-mailed to all registrants. You can also find information on the ODHS web page and the OHA web page.

15:30:15 From Javier Cervantes, Gov. Office (El, He, Him, His) to Hosts and panelists:

@Josie, I have sent Rachels suggestions to your email

15:35:12 From Elizur Bello to Hosts and panelists:

heavy is a light way to put it

15:44:12 From Rachel Currans-Henry (she/her), OR to Hosts and panelists:

OHA Budget Bill is HB 5025 <https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2025R1/Measures/Overview/HB5025>

15:46:14 From Tae-Sun Kim to Hosts and panelists:

What data do we have to show the impact of these SBs and HBs on Oregonians of color?

15:46:31 From Rachel Currans-Henry (she/her), OR to Hosts and panelists:

SB 5526 is the ODHS budget bill: <https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2025R1/Measures/Overview/SB5526>

15:51:09 From April Rohman (they/them), Governor's Office to Hosts and panelists:

I apologize, I need to step away at 3:45, but will return before the end of the meeting. Thank you, Rachel, for your initial review of the letter. The BH residential services expansion and BH Workforce expansion bills are still two of the Governor's top priorities. Racial equity impacts in those investments include investment in programs that prioritize BIPOC and peer services, and education/licensing programs that assist BIPOC practitioners to enter the workforce.

16:02:19 From Elizur Bello to Hosts and panelists:

nothing to change on my end thus far

16:13:50 From Javier Cervantes, Gov. Office (El, He, Him, His) to Hosts and panelists:

Oregon Behavioral Health Talent Assessment:

<https://www.oregon.gov/highered/strategy-research/Documents/Reports/2025-Oregon-Behavioral-Health-Talent-Assessment-Report-final.pdf>



The background of the slide features a large, faint, light blue seal of the State of Oregon. The seal is circular, with the words "STATE OF OREGON" around the top and "1859" at the bottom. In the center is an eagle with spread wings, perched on a shield. Below the eagle is a banner that reads "THE UNION".

# Racial Justice Council HEC Sub

May 21, 2025

Office of Governor Kotek



# Budget Process

- Governor's Recommended Budget (GRB)
- Rebalance Bills
- May Forecast (we are here)
- Legislatively Adopted Budget (LAB)



# Forecast (toplines)

- Overall Revenue is Growing
- However
  - Revenue projection for 23-25 down (\$162m)
  - Revenue projection for 25-27 down ( \$334m)
  - Bottom line:
    - ~\$500 million less than previously forecasted



# Federal Snapshot: E&C and AG Bill

*“Their proposal is not just shortsighted – it’s morally indefensible.”*

*-Oregon Governor Tina Kotek*



# Process

1. Congress passes budget resolution with committee instructions
2. Committees write reconciliation bills (**we are here**)
3. Committees markup bills (**E&C likely to take some time**)
4. House/Senate votes on full reconciliation package
5. House and Senate reconcile differences
6. President signs or vetoes bill



# Federal Snapshot: E&C and AG Bill

- If passed:
- At least \$7 billion in cuts to Medicaid over 10 years, beginning with a \$1 billion reduction in the 2027-2029 biennium.
- The state is still analyzing the impact of proposed state directed payment and provider tax freezes, which are likely to cut off funding strategies for states long-term as health care needs grow.
- Prohibits Medicaid funds from being paid to Planned Parenthood for a 10-year period
- Prevents access to gender affirming care for youth



# Federal Snapshot: E&C and AG Bill

- If passed:
- Oregonians will be required to demonstrate their work status on an ongoing and unreasonable basis
- Increased eligibility checks will also result in a greater number of people losing coverage and becoming uninsured
- Forces families to pay more for their care than they do today by imposing new costs on services, all while families struggle to afford everyday needs
- \$993 million a biennium in SNAP reductions will strip families of their dignity and cut meals for children