

Government Relations 2025 Legislative Session Agenda

Oregon Health Authority Government Relations Team

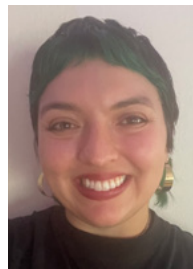


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Oregon Health Authority's Legislative Priorities

For more information, please visit the Oregon Health Authority Government Relations website at oregon.gov/oha/erd/pages/government-relations.aspx or by scanning the QR code.



Bill number	Title	Summary
SB834	Oregon State Hospital (OSH) Technical Fixes	This bill includes several technical fixes to align statutes and current Oregon State Hospital practices. The bill adds language to clarify that OSH is an inpatient facility that does not treat youth under 18 and allows OSH to hire a chief medical officer, even if the superintendent is a physician, which is currently prohibited. The bill acknowledges treatment by psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners in addition to physicians when considering a person for extremely dangerous civil commitment. The bill also clarifies the requirement that initial aid and assist evaluations are to be performed by certified evaluators and standardizes some medical terminology.
SB835	Collection and Protection of Tribal Affiliation Data	This bill updates Race, Ethnicity, Language, Disability (REALD) statutes (would become RELDT, T for Tribal Affiliation) to authorize the collection of tribal specific data such as behavioral health, public health, and Medicaid data for the purpose of improving health in tribal communities while honoring tribal sovereignty and maintaining confidentiality protections. This data would belong to each individual tribe.
HB3051	Community Restoration Placeholder	This bill changes certain admissions requirements for criminal defendants to be admitted to the Oregon State Hospital when they lack the mental capacity to stand trial. The bill also creates restoration time limits and standards for community restoration, or the process by which an individual receives care to reach the mental capacity to stand trial.

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Bill number	Title	Summary
HB2917	Updating Oregon Health Plan Benefit Coverage	Currently, this bill directs OHA to study potential changes to the Oregon Health Plan (OHP) prioritized list which is compiled by the Health Evidence Review Commission (HERC). Once updated, this bill will be used to make necessary legislative changes to Oregon's Prioritized List and the Health Evidence Review Commission.
SB837	Expanding SERV-OR Activities and Membership	This bill expands the State Emergency Registry of Volunteers in Oregon (SERV-OR), Oregon's health care volunteer program, to allow year-round volunteer activities for all interested health care workers, including during non-emergency times. This expansion aims to provide more services to underserved communities, support health education and prevention initiatives, support rapid and early response for outbreaks, and build capacity in local public health and community clinics.
SB841	Sharing Health Data with Tribes	This bill allows the Oregon Health Authority to enter into agreements to share health data with the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes in Oregon and the Tribal Epidemiology Center. Such data will enable Tribes to better investigate disease outbreaks and prevent opioid overdoses in Tribal communities. Current Oregon statutes are silent on data such as communicable diseases and outbreaks with Tribes which can severely limit Tribal efforts.
HB2528	Protecting Youth by Closing Tobacco Law Loopholes	This bill updates state tobacco laws to include oral nicotine products derived from any source in the definition of tobacco products. While youth under 21 are not allowed to purchase tobacco products, this law closes some loopholes that allow youth to win these products as prizes in chance giveaway machines and purchase them online.

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Bill number	Title	Summary
SB842	Modernizing Hospital Oversight Fee Structure	This bill increases the licensing fee for hospitals for the first time in 15 years. Increasing fees would allow OHA to better support licensees, complainants and the community by conducting timely licensing surveys and investigations of patient safety incidents and improving communication. The updated fees would be based on number of hospital beds.
SB844	Oregon Health Authority Technical Fixes	This technical fixes bill makes several small changes including clarifying that a hemodialysis technician must be certified, removing redundant and outdated language for the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments program, making information from investigations of licensed psilocybin businesses confidential, modernizing the environmental health specialist registration process to incentivize applicants, and extending the deadline for OHA to submit overdose reporting to the legislature so it can include relevant federal data. Additionally, the bill creates a more inclusive and equitable definition of school-based health center by adding “youth” to the list of centers organizers and allows OHA to contract with more than one entity when providing SBHC technical assistance. In compliance with Oregon’s 2022-2027 Medicaid 1115 demonstration waiver, the bill also adds language to allow eligible individuals in carceral settings to be enrolled in OHP benefits pre-release.

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Bill number	Title	Summary
HB2937	Modernizing Newborn Bloodspot Screening	This bill requires Coordinated Care Organizations and health insurance companies to cover the cost of newborn bloodspot screening, allows a parent or guardian to decline the screening for any reason, requires providers to report positive screenings from the newborn screening to OHA, and authorizes OHA to educate providers and families on the benefits of identifying congenital conditions experienced by newborns through this screening.
SB846	Improving the Children's Health Report	This bill updates the Oregon Health Authority Children's Health Report to allow for the inclusion of more valuable and timelier child-specific data sources. By including new data sources such as the CCO Performance Metrics Dashboard, the Medicaid Enrollment Dashboard, and the coming Medicaid Demographics Dashboard, this report will be able to offer richer and more useful information on children's health and can inform strategies to address health inequities among children in Oregon.
SB848	Modernizing the DUII System	This bill creates a workgroup to modernize Oregon's Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUII) service system. The current system has unclear mandates for OHA and the other state agencies that manage the system. The workgroup will determine more effective management for the program, enable individuals facing DUII charges in Oregon to complete rehabilitative programs in other states, and authorize funding for individuals with lower income to be screened and attend trainings.

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Bill number	Title	Summary
HB2010	Hospital and Insurance Assessment	This bill extends the existing assessments paid by hospitals and health insurers. The funds from these assessments pay for much of the state's contribution to health care for people in Oregon through the Oregon Health Plan, and also brings billions of dollars in federal matching funds to the state.
SB850	Expanding Regional Health Equity Coalitions Regions	This bill would create additional Regional Health Equity Coalitions (RHECs) to cover additional counties, primarily in rural and remote regions. RHECs are coalitions of grassroots community leaders and representatives from culturally specific community-based organizations working to identify and address the most important health equity problems in their regions for priority populations and advocate for policy solutions.

You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer free of charge. Contact Sarah Herb at sarah.herb@oha.oregon.gov or 971-372-9887 (voice/text). We accept all relay calls.

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