House Bill 2986

Sponsored by Representative ALONSO LEON, Senator MONNES ANDERSON; Representatives MITCHELL, NOSSE

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced.**

Requires Oregon Health Authority and coordinated care organizations to partner with regional health equity coalitions in addressing health disparities for communities of color. Describes regional health equity coalitions.

Requires authority and coordinated care organizations to award grants to support work of regional health equity coalitions.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2019.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to reducing health disparities for minority communities; creating new provisions; amending ORS 414.625; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:

(a) "Authentic community engagement" means working collaboratively with and through groups of individuals who are affiliated by geographic proximity, special interest or similar situations to address issues affecting the well-being of the groups.

(b) "Community-led" means an approach based on a set of core principles that, at a minimum, engages the people living in a geographic community to establish goals and priorities, using local residents as leaders, building on strengths rather than focusing on problems and involving cross-sector collaboration that is intentional and adaptable and works to achieve systemic change.

(c) "Coordinated care organization" has the meaning given that term in ORS 414.025.

(d) "Cross-sector" means involving individuals, public and private institutions and communities working together.

(e) "Health equity" means the achievement of an individual's highest level of health and wellness regardless of social position or other socially determined factors such as race, ethnicity, language, disability, sexual orientation, sex, immigration status or socioeconomic status.

(2) The Oregon Health Authority shall establish formal partnerships with regional health equity coalitions, as described in subsection (4) of this section, and seek out consultation with and technical assistance from regional health equity coalitions in identifying sustainable, long term policy, system and environmental solutions to increase health equity for communities of color and other marginalized groups.

(3) Each coordinated care organization that has a regional health equity coalition, as described in subsection (4) of this section, in the coordinated care organization's region shall form a meaningful partnership with the regional health equity coalition to address health disparities and promote health equity by:

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

(a) Requesting consultation with and taking direction from the regional health equity coalition on plans and initiatives intended to promote health equity and improve the social determinants of health for the community;

(b) Implementing recommendations from regional health equity coalitions to strengthen the coordinated care organization's health equity efforts; and

(c) Facilitating connections between the regional health equity coalition and the executive leadership of the coordinated care organization to ensure that sufficient resources support the coordinated care organization's health equity plan and that the plan is implemented.

(4) The authority and a coordinated care organization must partner with a regional health equity coalition that is an autonomous, community-led, cross-sector group that is completely independent of coordinated care organizations and government agencies and that:

(a) Identifies sustainable, long term policies and systemic and environmental solutions to improve health equity for communities of color and individuals who have one or more characteristics such as race, class, sex, sexual identity, sexual orientation, ability, socioeconomic status, religion or other characteristic that society marginalizes, affecting the individuals' social identities and their health; and

(b) Focuses on:

(A) Authentic community engagement;

(B) Developing a governance structure for the coalition and creating operating systems for the daily and long term functioning of the coalition led by individuals with demonstrated leadership and expertise in promoting and improving health equity;

(C) Building capacity and leadership among coalition staff, decision-making bodies and coalition members to address health equity and the social determinants of health;

(D) Creating new social norms and promoting environmental changes; and

(E) Developing and advocating for policy, system and environmental changes to improve health equity in this state.

(5) To ensure that regional health equity coalitions are able to fully engage in the work described in this section, the authority and coordinated care organizations shall award grants to regional health equity coalitions that meet the following requirements:

(a) The coalition must be organized to focus on addressing health disparities based on race and ethnicity and based on race or ethnicity combined with other characteristics, including age, disability, gender identity or sexual orientation;

(b) Fifty-one percent or more of the leadership positions or members of the decision-making body of the coalition must be persons of color;

(c) Members of communities most affected by health disparities must lead the development of the coalition's objectives and strategic priorities;

(d) The coalition must involve in its activities a range of community partners, including a range of multicultural providers, and public agencies; and

(e) The coalition must be a community-based nonprofit organization or affiliated with a federally recognized tribe.

(6) A regional health equity coalition may develop a process to review and make recommendations for improvements to a coordinated care organization's community health improvement plan under ORS 414.629 and its development of best practices for culturally appropriate care and service delivery, as required by ORS 414.625 (2)(k)(G).

SECTION 2. ORS 414.625, as amended by section 3, chapter 49, Oregon Laws 2018, is amended

to read:

414.625. (1) The Oregon Health Authority shall adopt by rule the qualification criteria and requirements for a coordinated care organization and shall integrate the criteria and requirements into each contract with a coordinated care organization. Coordinated care organizations may be local, community-based organizations or statewide organizations with community-based participation in governance or any combination of the two. Coordinated care organizations may contract with counties or with other public or private entities to provide services to members. The authority may not contract with only one statewide organization. A coordinated care organization may be a single corporate structure or a network of providers organized through contractual relationships. The criteria and requirements adopted by the authority under this section must include, but are not limited to, a requirement that the coordinated care organization:

(a) Have demonstrated experience and a capacity for managing financial risk and establishing financial reserves.

(b) Meet the following minimum financial requirements:

(A) Maintain restricted reserves of $250,000 plus an amount equal to 50 percent of the coordinated care organization's total actual or projected liabilities above $250,000.

(B) Maintain a net worth in an amount equal to at least five percent of the average combined revenue in the prior two quarters of the participating health care entities.

(C) Expend a portion of the annual net income or reserves of the coordinated care organization that exceed the financial requirements specified in this paragraph on services designed to address health disparities and the social determinants of health consistent with the coordinated care organization's community health improvement plan and transformation plan and the terms and conditions of the Medicaid demonstration project under section 1115 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1315).

(c) Operate within a fixed global budget and, by January 1, 2023, spend on primary care, as defined in section 2, chapter 575, Oregon Laws 2015, at least 12 percent of the coordinated care organization's total expenditures for physical and mental health care provided to members, except for expenditures on prescription drugs, vision care and dental care.

(d) Develop and implement alternative payment methodologies that are based on health care quality and improved health outcomes.

(e) Coordinate the delivery of physical health care, mental health and chemical dependency services, oral health care and covered long-term care services.

(f) Engage community members and health care providers in improving the health of the community and addressing regional, cultural, socioeconomic and racial disparities in health care that exist among the coordinated care organization's members and in the coordinated care organization's community.

(2) In addition to the criteria and requirements specified in subsection (1) of this section, the authority must adopt by rule requirements for coordinated care organizations contracting with the authority so that:

(a) Each member of the coordinated care organization receives integrated person centered care and services designed to provide choice, independence and dignity.

(b) Each member has a consistent and stable relationship with a care team that is responsible for comprehensive care management and service delivery.

(c) The supportive and therapeutic needs of each member are addressed in a holistic fashion, using patient centered primary care homes, behavioral health homes or other models that support

patient centered primary care and behavioral health care and individualized care plans to the extent feasible.

(d) Members receive comprehensive transitional care, including appropriate follow-up, when entering and leaving an acute care facility or a long term care setting.

(e) Members receive assistance in navigating the health care delivery system and in accessing community and social support services and statewide resources, including through the use of certified health care interpreters and qualified health care interpreters, as those terms are defined in ORS 413.550.

(f) Services and supports are geographically located as close to where members reside as possible and are, if available, offered in nontraditional settings that are accessible to families, diverse communities and underserved populations.

(g) Each coordinated care organization uses health information technology to link services and care providers across the continuum of care to the greatest extent practicable and if financially viable.

(h) Each coordinated care organization complies with the safeguards for members described in ORS 414.635.

(i) Each coordinated care organization convenes a community advisory council that meets the criteria specified in ORS 414.627.

(j) Each coordinated care organization prioritizes working with members who have high health care needs, multiple chronic conditions, mental illness or chemical dependency and involves those members in accessing and managing appropriate preventive, health, remedial and supportive care and services, including the services described in ORS 414.766, to reduce the use of avoidable emergency room visits and hospital admissions.

(k) Members have a choice of providers within the coordinated care organization's network and that providers participating in a coordinated care organization:

(A) Work together to develop best practices for care and service delivery to reduce waste and improve the health and well-being of members.

(B) Are educated about the integrated approach and how to access and communicate within the integrated system about a patient's treatment plan and health history.

(C) Emphasize prevention, healthy lifestyle choices, evidence-based practices, shared decision-making and communication.

(D) Are permitted to participate in the networks of multiple coordinated care organizations.

(E) Include providers of specialty care.

(F) Are selected by coordinated care organizations using universal application and credentialing procedures and objective quality information and are removed if the providers fail to meet objective quality standards.

(G) Work together to develop best practices for culturally appropriate care and service delivery to reduce waste, reduce health disparities and improve the health and well-being of members.

(L) Each coordinated care organization reports on outcome and quality measures adopted under ORS 414.638 and participates in the health care data reporting system established in ORS 442.464 and 442.466.

(m) Each coordinated care organization uses best practices in the management of finances, contracts, claims processing, payment functions and provider networks.

(n) Each coordinated care organization participates in the learning collaborative described in ORS 413.259 (3).

(o) Each coordinated care organization has a governing body that complies with section 2, chapter 49, Oregon Laws 2018, and that includes:

(A) At least one member representing persons that share in the financial risk of the organization;

(B) A representative of a dental care organization selected by the coordinated care organization;

(C) The major components of the health care delivery system;

(D) At least two health care providers in active practice, including:

(i) A physician licensed under ORS chapter 677 or a nurse practitioner certified under ORS 678.375, whose area of practice is primary care; and

(ii) A mental health or chemical dependency treatment provider;

(E) At least two members from the community at large, to ensure that the organization's decision-making is consistent with the values of the members and the community; and

(F) At least one member of the community advisory council.

(p) Each coordinated care organization's governing body establishes standards for publicizing the activities of the coordinated care organization and the organization's community advisory councils, as necessary, to keep the community informed.

(q) Coordinated care organizations partner with regional health equity coalitions as required by section 1 of this 2019 Act.

(3) The authority shall consider the participation of area agencies and other nonprofit agencies in the configuration of coordinated care organizations.

(4) In selecting one or more coordinated care organizations to serve a geographic area, the authority shall:

(a) For members and potential members, optimize access to care and choice of providers;

(b) For providers, optimize choice in contracting with coordinated care organizations; and

(c) Allow more than one coordinated care organization to serve the geographic area if necessary to optimize access and choice under this subsection.

(5) On or before July 1, 2014, each coordinated care organization must have a formal contractual relationship with any dental care organization that serves members of the coordinated care organization in the area where they reside.

SECTION 3. ORS 414.625, as amended by section 14, chapter 489, Oregon Laws 2017, and section 4, chapter 49, Oregon Laws 2018, is amended to read:

414.625. (1) The Oregon Health Authority shall adopt by rule the qualification criteria and requirements for a coordinated care organization and shall integrate the criteria and requirements into each contract with a coordinated care organization. Coordinated care organizations may be local, community-based organizations or statewide organizations with community-based participation in governance or any combination of the two. Coordinated care organizations may contract with counties or with other public or private entities to provide services to members. The authority may not contract with only one statewide organization. A coordinated care organization may be a single corporate structure or a network of providers organized through contractual relationships. The criteria and requirements adopted by the authority under this section must include, but are not limited to, a requirement that the coordinated care organization:

(a) Have demonstrated experience and a capacity for managing financial risk and establishing financial reserves.

(b) Meet the following minimum financial requirements:

(A) Maintain restricted reserves of $250,000 plus an amount equal to 50 percent of the coordi-

nated care organization's total actual or projected liabilities above $250,000.

(B) Maintain a net worth in an amount equal to at least five percent of the average combined revenue in the prior two quarters of the participating health care entities.

(C) Expend a portion of the annual net income or reserves of the coordinated care organization that exceed the financial requirements specified in this paragraph on services designed to address health disparities and the social determinants of health consistent with the coordinated care organization's community health improvement plan and transformation plan and the terms and conditions of the Medicaid demonstration project under section 1115 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1315).

(c) Operate within a fixed global budget and spend on primary care, as defined by the authority by rule, at least 12 percent of the coordinated care organization's total expenditures for physical and mental health care provided to members, except for expenditures on prescription drugs, vision care and dental care.

(d) Develop and implement alternative payment methodologies that are based on health care quality and improved health outcomes.

(e) Coordinate the delivery of physical health care, mental health and chemical dependency services, oral health care and covered long-term care services.

(f) Engage community members and health care providers in improving the health of the community and addressing regional, cultural, socioeconomic and racial disparities in health care that exist among the coordinated care organization's members and in the coordinated care organization's community.

(2) In addition to the criteria and requirements specified in subsection (1) of this section, the authority must adopt by rule requirements for coordinated care organizations contracting with the authority so that:

(a) Each member of the coordinated care organization receives integrated person centered care and services designed to provide choice, independence and dignity.

(b) Each member has a consistent and stable relationship with a care team that is responsible for comprehensive care management and service delivery.

(c) The supportive and therapeutic needs of each member are addressed in a holistic fashion, using patient centered primary care homes, behavioral health homes or other models that support patient centered primary care and behavioral health care and individualized care plans to the extent feasible.

(d) Members receive comprehensive transitional care, including appropriate follow-up, when entering and leaving an acute care facility or a long term care setting.

(e) Members receive assistance in navigating the health care delivery system and in accessing community and social support services and statewide resources, including through the use of certified health care interpreters and qualified health care interpreters, as those terms are defined in ORS 413.550.

(f) Services and supports are geographically located as close to where members reside as possible and are, if available, offered in nontraditional settings that are accessible to families, diverse communities and underserved populations.

(g) Each coordinated care organization uses health information technology to link services and care providers across the continuum of care to the greatest extent practicable and if financially viable.

(h) Each coordinated care organization complies with the safeguards for members described in

ORS 414.635.

(i) Each coordinated care organization convenes a community advisory council that meets the criteria specified in ORS 414.627.

(j) Each coordinated care organization prioritizes working with members who have high health care needs, multiple chronic conditions, mental illness or chemical dependency and involves those members in accessing and managing appropriate preventive, health, remedial and supportive care and services, including the services described in ORS 414.766, to reduce the use of avoidable emergency room visits and hospital admissions.

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(C) Emphasize prevention, healthy lifestyle choices, evidence-based practices, shared decision-making and communication.

(D) Are permitted to participate in the networks of multiple coordinated care organizations.

(E) Include providers of specialty care.

(F) Are selected by coordinated care organizations using universal application and credentialing procedures and objective quality information and are removed if the providers fail to meet objective quality standards.

(G) Work together to develop best practices for culturally appropriate care and service delivery to reduce waste, reduce health disparities and improve the health and well-being of members.

(L) Each coordinated care organization reports on outcome and quality measures adopted under ORS 414.638 and participates in the health care data reporting system established in ORS 442.464 and 442.466.

(m) Each coordinated care organization uses best practices in the management of finances, contracts, claims processing, payment functions and provider networks.

(n) Each coordinated care organization participates in the learning collaborative described in ORS 413.259 (3).

(o) Each coordinated care organization has a governing body that complies with section 2, chapter 49, Oregon Laws 2018, and that includes:

(A) At least one member representing persons that share in the financial risk of the organization;

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councils, as necessary, to keep the community informed.

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(b) For providers, optimize choice in contracting with coordinated care organizations; and

(c) Allow more than one coordinated care organization to serve the geographic area if necessary to optimize access and choice under this subsection.

(5) On or before July 1, 2014, each coordinated care organization must have a formal contractual relationship with any dental care organization that serves members of the coordinated care organization in the area where they reside.

SECTION 4. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Oregon Health Authority, to be used by the office within the authority that is charged with addressing equity and inclusion, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, out of the General Fund, the amount of $380,000, which shall be expended for awarding grants under section 1 of this 2019 Act.

SECTION 5. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect July 1, 2019.