

House Bill 3084

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE (at the request of Representative Tina Kotek, Speaker of the House)

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 Department of Consumer and Business Services to administer program to provide financial assistance with cost of deductibles and other cost-sharing requirements associated with health insurance. Requires Director of Department of Consumer and Business Services to convene task force to make recommendations for eligibility and administration of program. Specifies members of task force and duties.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to the cost of medical care; and declaring an emergency.

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

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

5 (a) **"Health insurance exchange" has the meaning given that term in ORS 741.300.**

6 (b) **"Qualified health plan" means an individual health benefit plan available for purchase**
7 **through the health insurance exchange.**

8 (2) **The Department of Consumer and Business Services shall administer a program to**
9 **subsidize a portion of the cost of deductibles and other out-of-pocket costs for an individual**
10 **who:**

11 (a) **Is enrolled in a qualified health plan;**

12 (b) **Has income at or below 300 percent of the federal poverty guidelines; and**

13 (c) **Is at high risk of incurring excessive medical expenses due to:**

14 (A) **A catastrophic injury or illness;**

15 (B) **A chronic condition that causes the individual to consistently incur medical expenses**
16 **up to the out-of-pocket limit before the end of the plan year; or**

17 (C) **Other qualifying factors established by the department by rule.**

18 **SECTION 2. (1) The Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services shall**
19 **convene a task force consisting of seven members appointed as follows:**

20 (a) **The President of the Senate shall appoint one nonvoting member from among mem-**
21 **bers of the Senate.**

22 (b) **The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one nonvoting member**
23 **from among members of the House of Representatives.**

24 (c) **The Governor shall appoint:**

25 (A) **One member representing low income individuals enrolled in qualified health plans,**
26 **as defined in section 1 of this 2017 Act;**

27 (B) **Two members representing consumer advocates; and**

28 (C) **Two members representing carriers.**

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.

1 (3) The task force shall study and make recommendations to the director for:

2 (a) The criteria for section 1 (2) of this 2017 Act;

3 (b) One or more income-tiered approaches to reducing out-of-pocket costs for enrollees;

4 (c) The distribution of moneys from the fund established under section 3 of this 2017 Act;

5 and

6 (d) Additional sources of revenue to reduce the long-term dependence on the General
7 Fund of the program described in section 1 of this 2017 Act.

8 (4) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the
9 transaction of business.

10 (5) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting
11 members of the task force.

12 (6) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

13 (7) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-
14 ment to become immediately effective.

15 (8) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson
16 or of a majority of the voting members of the task force.

17 (9) The Department of Consumer and Business Services shall provide staff support to the
18 task force.

19 (10) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not
20 entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers on the task
21 force.

22 (11) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
23 the task force in the performance of the task force's duties and, to the extent permitted by
24 laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task
25 force consider necessary to perform their duties.

26 **SECTION 3.** A fund is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the
27 General Fund. Moneys in the fund established under this section are continuously appropri-
28 ated to the Department of Consumer and Business Services for carrying out the provisions
29 of section 1 of this 2017 Act.

30 **SECTION 4.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
31 ated to the Department of Consumer and Business Services, for the biennium beginning July
32 1, 2017, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$_____ million, to be deposited into the
33 fund established under section 3 of this 2017 Act, for carrying out the provisions of section
34 1 of this 2017 Act.

35 **SECTION 5.** (1) Section 1 of this 2017 Act becomes operative November 1, 2017.

36 (2) Before November 1, 2017, the Department of Consumer and Business Services shall
37 take all steps necessary to administer the program described in section 1 of this 2017 Act,
38 on and after November 1, 2017.

39 **SECTION 6.** Section 2 of this 2017 Act is repealed on December 31, 2018.

40 **SECTION 7.** This 2017 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
41 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2017 Act takes effect
42 on its passage.

43