74th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2007 Regular Session MEASURE: SB 16 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY CARRIER: Sen. Johnson

Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

REVENUE: No revenue impact FISCAL: No fiscal impact

**Action:** Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

**Vote:** 4 - 0 - 1

**Yeas:** George G., Kruse, Verger, Morrisette

Nays: 0

**Exc.:** Monnes Anderson

**Prepared By:** Ilana Weinbaum, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 4/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Changes composition of interdisciplinary team as related to coordinated hospice care. Indicates that a hospice program is considered to be licensed by the state if it is certified by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and accredited by either the Oregon Hospice Association (OHA) or the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). Requires hospice programs to provide utilization data to the OHA and for the OHA to compile data from all programs in the state and report to the Department of Human Services. Clarifies that hospice programs must comply with statute that regulates death investigation.

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Similar accreditation requirements of Oregon Hospice Association (OHA) and Joint commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organization
- OHA policies regarding bequests to hospices and hospice workers
- Vulnerability of family members when getting hospice care
- Pain management education for hospice workers

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Adds nurse practitioner to list of providers who can be part of an interdisciplinary team providing hospice care. Specifies that licensure requirements include certification by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services and accreditation by either the Oregon Hospice Association or the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations.

**BACKGROUND:** In 1985, two distinct hospice organizations, the Oregon Council of Hospices and the Hospice Assistance Program merged and became the Oregon Hospice Association (OHA). OHA is a statewide, not-for-profit public benefit membership organization, incorporated under United States Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3), whose goal is to make sure that all Oregonians can have excellent care as they, or their loved ones, approach the end of life. OHA is recognized as an accrediting body by the State of Oregon (ORS 443.850-870). OHA provides: (1) information to the public about hospice and all end-of-life choices; (2) advocacy for optimal care of Americans who are facing life threatening illnesses; and (3) education, training, technical assistance, support, and accreditation for operating and developing hospice programs serving Oregonians.

In 2006, 62 hospices provided a full array of supportive, palliative health care services for terminally-ill Oregonians and their families throughout the State of Oregon. Currently, hospice programs in the state are not required to be accredited by the OHA, if they are certified by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services or accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). In addition, hospice programs currently report utilization data to the OHA on a voluntary basis. SB 16 A would require all hospices not accredited by JCAHO to be accredited by the OHA and would require that all programs report data to the OHA.