

**REVENUE: No revenue impact**

**FISCAL: No fiscal impact**

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended, Be Printed Engrossed, and Be Placed on the Consent Calendar
<b>Vote:</b>	7 - 0 - 2
<b>Yeas:</b>	Bonamici, Bruun, Cannon, Flores, Gelser, Maurer, Greenlick
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	Kotek, Richardson
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	5/1 (Policy sub), 5/8 (Full), 5/14 (Full)

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Modifies the examination requirements for licensure by the Board of Naturopathic Examiners to require all applicants to successfully pass the basic science and core clinical science examinations administered by the North American Board of Naturopathic Examiners, along with any additional exams required by the board. Allows the board to waive the basic science examination if licensee has passed another exam deemed by the board to be comparable. Prohibits the board from requiring licensees to study major surgery. Requires that applications for licensure be filed with the board no less than 20 days before the examination. Requires the board to appoint an executive director and requires the executive director to issue renewal notices each year by November 1.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Current Board of Naturopathic Examiners licensing requirements
- Subjects covered by Naturopathic Physicians national examinations
- The need for testing consistency
- Review of the exams for jurisprudence and pharmacology
- The need to clarify and update language relating to basic and clinical sciences examination
- Revising the licensure application deadline
- The need to update the title of secretary to executive director to align with position's responsibilities

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Modifies the examination requirements for licensure by the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Examiners to require all applicants to successfully pass the basic science and the core clinical science examinations administered by the North American Board of Naturopathic Examiners, along with any additional exams required by the board. Allows the board to waive the basic science examination if licensee has passed another exam deemed by the board to be comparable.

**BACKGROUND:** Naturopathic medicine is defined in ORS 685.010 as “the discipline that includes physiotherapy, natural healing processes and minor surgery and has as its objective the maintaining of the body in, or of restoring it to, a state of normal health.” To be licensed as a naturopathic physician, a person must graduate from an approved naturopathic college offering a resident four-year course, and meet the qualifications of the Board of Naturopathic Examiners (OBNE), which include certain standards, education and conduct.

In 1986, the Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Examinations Board was formed and began producing national exams, but jurisdictions were still responsible for qualifying examinees and administering the exam. In 2000, the North American Board of Naturopathic Examiners (NABNE) was formed to determine the qualifications of applicants to sit for the Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Examination, to administer the exam, and to report the scores to the respective regulatory authorities. The NABNE represents all constituencies having laws regulating the naturopathic profession.

As currently written, ORS 685.080 requires the OBNE to determine the qualifications of applicants for license and conduct examinations, which no longer reflects the current situation.

5/17/2007 2:47:00 PM

***This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.***