

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference
Vote:	4 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	George G., Kruse, Verger, Morrisette
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Monnes Anderson
Prepared By:	Ilana Weinbaum, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/4, 4/16, 4/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Creates Orthotics and Prosthetics Board of Examiners (Board) within the Oregon Health Licensing Agency (OHLA) and establishes membership and administrative processes. Requires people practicing orthotics or prosthetics to be licensed by OHLA as an orthotist, prosthetist, orthotist-prosthetist, orthotist assistant, or prosthetist assistant. Establishes timeline for licensure. Assigns certain responsibilities to the Board, including determining the qualifications and standards for licensure. Assigns certain responsibilities to OHLA, including evaluating the qualifications of applicants for licensure; issuing, denying, suspending, and renewing licenses; resolving complaints and imposing discipline for violations; and keeping public records. Allows OHLA to collect fees for licensure and associated administrative services. Exempts certain persons from the regulatory authority of the Board. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Personal accounts of negative experiences with orthotic and prosthetic services
- Current recourse for people who get poor service from prosthetists or orthotists
- Concern that orthotists and prosthetists are not currently regulated by the state
- National certification board standards
- Insurance policies regarding reimbursement for orthotics or prosthetics
- Agreement among stakeholders on amendments

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces original bill.

BACKGROUND: People engaging in the practice of orthotics and prosthetics in Oregon are not currently regulated by the state. At least nine other states, including Washington, regulate the profession.

The Oregon Health Licensing Agency (OHLA) was established by the Legislature in 1999 (HB 2465) to protect Oregon citizens from harm by setting, communicating and enforcing uniform regulatory standards for multiple health and related professions. OHLA currently regulates: athletic trainers, cosmetologists, denture technologists, direct entry midwives, respiratory therapists, environmental health specialists, electrologists, permanent color technicians, tattoo artists, hearing aid specialists and body piercers.

4/27/2007 4:13:00 PM

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