

**REVENUE: No revenue impact**

**FISCAL: No fiscal impact**

---

**Action:** Do Pass as Amended, Be Printed Engrossed, and Be Referred to the Committee on Health Care by prior reference

**Vote:** 8 - 0 - 0

**Yeas:** Boone, Esquivel, Freeman, Komp, Matthews, Riley, Weidner, Cowan

**Nays:** 0

**Exc.:** 0

**Prepared By:** David Molina, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 2/12, 3/31

---

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Allows a member of the Oregon National Guard who is trained and certified by the Armed Forces of the United States to administer health care services in a declared state of emergency or public health emergency without being subject to Oregon licensing requirements applied to health care providers. Waives Oregon health care providers licensing requirements for the 399 citizen-soldiers who are trained, certified and practice the medical profession in their military and civilian work.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Tort liability versus a licensing issue
- The need to use all available assets at the state's disposal during an emergency
- The need to ensure Oregon National Guard medics and health care professionals are protected and covered while administering health care services during a state or public health emergency

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Replaces the original measure.

**BACKGROUND:** An Oregon health care provider is an individual licensed, certified or otherwise authorized or permitted by the laws of the state to administer health care services in the ordinary course of business or practice of a profession (ORS 401.651 to 401.670). The U.S. Army Department of Combat Medic Training (DCMT) serves as the proponent for the 68W Health Care Specialist and the Army Emergency Medical Service (EMS). DCMT qualifies health care specialists (combat medics) at skill level 10 and 30 who are National Registry Emergency Medical Technician-Basic (EMT-B) certified. Oregon has approximately 11,393 emergency medical technicians and first responders, out of a total population of 3.7 million. The Oregon Military Department indicates that the total number of on-hand military health care professionals in the state include 283 medics in the Army Guard, 86 medics in the Air Guard, and 30 doctors, physician assistants and registered nurses.

House Bill 2165-A allows the 399 Guard medics and medical professionals currently trained and certified by DCMT and civilian schooling to administer health care services during a governor-declared state of emergency (ORS 401.055) or a public health emergency (ORS 433.441) without being subject to Oregon licensing requirements for health care providers. Proponents assert that these citizen-soldiers should not be required to undergo duplicate, extensive and costly training and state qualifications when they have already completed similar certification during their military career, and are practicing the medical profession in their civilian work.

4/7/2009 9:57 AM

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