

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure
Vote:	4 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Kruse, Morrisette, Morse, Monnes Anderson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Bates
Prepared By:	Robert Shook, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows a member of the Oregon National Guard who is trained and certified by the U.S. Armed Forces 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 provider licensing requirements for 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
- All available resources at the state's disposal during an emergency
- Current training program for members of Oregon National Guard
- Oregon licensing requirements for health care providers

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

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.