

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass With Amendments to the A-Engrossed Measure and Be Printed B-Engrossed
Vote:	4 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Kruse, Morrisette, Morse, Monnes Anderson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Bates
Prepared By:	Robert Shook, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/12, 5/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Oregon Medical Board to implement, by January 1, 2010, an expedited physician licensing process. Directs the Board to report to Legislative Assembly on issuance of licenses on or before January 31, 2011. Sunsets January 2, 2012. Takes effect on 91st day following sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Malpractice and liability issues
- Clarification of “retired physician” status
- Timeline for implementation of an expedited physician licensing process

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Eliminates the limited license for rural applicants and substitutes an indorsement process for all qualified applicants. Requires the Board to implement an expedited physician licensing process that allows the Board to issue a license by indorsement that includes the following requirements: having practiced in their specialty for at least one year; having been retired for one year or less; having not been subject to discipline by a health professional regulatory board; having not been held liable for a significant malpractice claim; and having met the requirements set forth by rule by the Board.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon Medical Board has licensed and monitored the professional conduct of Oregon’s physicians since 1889. Within the last 25 years, the Board has added other health care professionals to its licensing and monitoring functions. It investigates complaints against its licensees and takes disciplinary action when necessary. Although a state agency, the Board receives no money from the state’s General Fund; most of the Board’s funding is generated by the licensing and registration fees paid by licensees.

House Bill 2435-B allows the Oregon Medical Board to issue a license by indorsement to a qualified physician.