

**REVENUE: No revenue impact**

**FISCAL: No fiscal impact**

---

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

---

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Broadens and specifies category of health care professionals who may use the title “doctor” under certain requirements.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Medical professions that are now offering doctoral-level degrees
- Regulatory boards over-site of doctoral level applicants

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** Currently, Oregon law allows certain professionals who have earned doctoral degrees for the fields in which they practice to call themselves “doctor” when advertising or referring to their practice (ORS 676.110). This statute conflicts with ORS 677.060 and 677.085, which specifically allows for the use of the title “doctor” by the following: dentists, pharmacists, optometrists, psychologists, clinical social workers, chiropractors, naturopaths, occupational therapists, speech-language pathology/audiologists, and veterinarians.

House Bill 2610-A removes the ambiguous examples in Chapters 676 and 677 by prohibiting all health professionals from using “doctor” unless they have: 1) earned a doctoral degree in the field of practice, and 2) procured and maintained a license from the board that regulates the profession in which the degree was earned. The measure also broadens the use of the term to professions that have adopted the doctoral degree as the standard of practice.