

**REVENUE: No revenue impact**

**FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued**

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
<b>Vote:</b>	9 - 0 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Boone, Cowan, Dembrow, Freeman, Huffman, Maurer, Olson, VanOrman, Tomei
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Keely West, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	5/18

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Changes “State Board of Clinical Social Workers” to “State Board of Licensed Social Workers.” Creates additional title act protections for non-clinical social workers by adding new voluntary licenses for those not practicing clinical social work. Designates standards for certified and licensed clinical social workers and prohibits use of titles for individuals not qualified under statute. Adds a practice act for clinical social workers. Delays implementation to January 2011. Provides for exceptions to the prohibition on the unlicensed practice of clinical social work. Provides for the collection of application fees. Prohibits disclosure of confidential information except in certain limited circumstances. Establishes additional title protections for the term “social worker” and provides for civil penalties.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Protection of the general public
- Need for practice act
- Consensus bill
- Limitations of act
- Enforcement

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Provide for additional exceptions to the prohibition on the unlicensed practice of clinical social work. Provides for the collection of application fees. Prohibits disclosure of confidential information except in certain limited circumstances. Establishes additional title protections for the term “social worker” and provides for civil penalties.

**BACKGROUND:** The State of Oregon currently regulates only individuals utilizing the title of Licensed Clinical Social Worker or Clinical Social Work Associate. Oregon is one of only seven states that does not protect against the unlicensed practice of social work. There is no practice act for clinical social workers. The Board of Clinical Social Workers currently licenses approximately 3,500 individuals. Senate Bill 177-B supplements the Board’s existing licensure program for Licensed Clinical Social Workers and Clinical Social Work Associates with new voluntary licenses and exempts those practitioners who are regulated by other boards.