

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended, Be Printed Engrossed, and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Bates, Kruse, Morrisette, Morse, Monnes Anderson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Robert Shook, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/2, 4/14, 4/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Creates the Nursing Faculty Loan Repayment Program and changes the terms of the loan repayment program for nurse educators.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Number of nurse educators in Oregon
- Criteria for participation and loan repayment program
- Salary levels for nurse educators in Oregon
- Role of Oregon Student Assistance Commission

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Clarifies the difference between the existing Nursing Services Program and the newly created Nursing Loan Repayment Program. Reduces the amount the Oregon Student Assistance Commission will pay of the nurse's outstanding qualifying loan, and allows the Commission to make annual payments of up to three years for a nurse educator who has earned a master's degree and up to five years for a nurse educator who has earned a doctoral degree.

BACKGROUND: Currently, the Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC) offers to nurse educators in Oregon loan repayment programs, administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Nursing Student Loan and Health Education Assistance Loan Program.

Senate Bill 701-A creates the Nursing Faculty Loan Repayment Program to provide loan repayments on behalf of nurse educators at nursing schools in Oregon who have earned a master's or doctoral degree from an accredited nursing education program. As the agency responsible for administering the loan program, OSAC is directed to adopt rules in consultation with the Oregon State Board of Nursing and the Oregon Center for Nursing to establish criteria for participation in the Nursing Faculty Loan Repayment Program.