

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

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

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Appropriates moneys from the General Fund to Department of Administrative Services for distribution to Oregon Center for Nursing for biennial expenses.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Role of Oregon Center for Nursing
- Impact the Center has made in addressing Oregon's nursing shortage
- Alternative funding
- List and support of Oregon Nursing Leadership Council

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: In March 2001, the Northwest Health Foundation released its report, "Oregon's Nursing Shortage: A Public Health Crisis in the Making." The report detailed the current shortage of registered nurses (RNs) and projected that by 2010 Oregon will have 20 percent fewer nurses than needed, given changing demographics and population growth. Leaders from the Oregon State Board of Nursing, Oregon Nurses Association, Oregon Council of Deans, Oregon Council of Associate Degree Programs, and Northwest Organization of Nurse Executives came together in 2000 to form the Oregon Nursing Leadership Council. The group is committed to a strategic plan to solve the growing nursing shortage in Oregon, and created the Oregon Center for Nursing in January 2002.

The Oregon Center for Nursing, a non-profit organization, is focused on a course of action to address the potential shortage. Central to this initiative is a clearinghouse for all aspects of the state's nursing profession, including workforce information, collection and analysis of industry data, recruitment and retention, career counseling, research and model programs, resources and funding, education reform, scholarships and grants.

Senate Bill 913 authorizes and appropriates state General Fund moneys for the continued funding of the Oregon Center for Nursing.