

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Nathanson
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Bates

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure

Vote: 23 – 0 – 1

House

Yeas: Barker, Buckley, Cowan, Edwards, Garrard, Gilman, Jenson, Komp, Kotek, Nathanson, Richardson, G. Smith

Nays:

Exc:

Senate

Yeas: Bates, Courtney, Edwards, Girod, Johnson, Monroe, Nelson, Shields, Verger, Whitsett, Winters

Nays:

Exc: Kruse

Prepared By: Robin LaMonte, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: February 17, 2010

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows supervising physician organization to collectively supervise physician assistant. Defines “supervising physician organization.” Modifies supervising physician requirements to include physician organizations. Modifies application process. Specifies supervising physician organization supervisory requirements. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Availability of budgeted funds to pay the cost of the program
- The workload that will be generated and the need for additional staffing

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Currently, Oregon law governing physician assistants establishes a ratio between physicians and physician assistants. With many forms of access to health care being implemented, and with health care professionals working longer hours, the current physician to physician assistant structure is reportedly problematic.

Proponents of HB 3642 A state the bill maintains all current mechanisms for ensuring quality and safety, and that the measure creates a second supervisory pathway to accommodate additional health care delivery settings and hours.