75th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2010 Special Session

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee on Human Services & Rural Health Policy

REVENUE: No revenue impact FISCAL: No fiscal impact

**Action:** Do Pass **Vote:** 4 - 0 - 1

**Yeas:** Monnes Anderson, Telfer, Winters, Morrisette

Nays: 0 Exc.: Verger

**Prepared By:** Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 2/16

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Modifies date by which licensed professional counselors and marriage and family therapists must attest to having certain training and experience. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**MEASURE:** 

**CARRIER:** 

**HB 3668** 

Sen. Morrisette

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Unintended consequences
- Technical fix to House Bill 3668 (2009)
- Importance of providing licensees adequate time to upgrade skills to maintain license

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

**BACKGROUND:** The Oregon Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists was created to assist the public by setting education, experience and examination standards for licensed professional counselors and licensed marriage and family therapists, and investigating complaints against licensees and unlicensed counselors and therapists claiming to be licensed. Proponents assert that HB 3668:

- Distinguishes licensed mental health providers from unlicensed providers;
- Prevents unlicensed counselors and therapists from using misleading language;
- Requires that unlicensed counselors and therapists disclose their status; and
- Provides for penalties for failure to comply.