

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote: 6 - 0 - 2
Yeas: Doherty, Hoyle, Parrish, Weidner, Greenlick, Thompson
Nays: 0
Exc.: Cannon, Kennemer
Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 2/14, 4/11, 4/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Provides for confidentiality of information disclosed during peer review. Decreases State Board of Direct Entry Midwifery (DEM) members from eight to seven; reduces current requirement that two members be certified nurse midwife to one. Allows DEM to approve legend drugs and devices for use by direct entry midwives. Declares emergency effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Number of licensed and unlicensed DEM in Oregon
- Current barriers to DEM licensing
- Mandatory versus voluntary licensure
- Potential fee increase(s) to DEM
- Liability and litigation concerns
- Concerns with licensing requirement will force DEM underground
- Current reporting requirements and outcomes
- Importance for consumers to have choices in delivery process

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Deletes mandatory licensing requirement. Provides for confidentiality of information disclosed during peer review. Decreases DEM members from eight to seven; reduces current requirement that two members be certified nurse midwife to one.

BACKGROUND: Direct entry midwives enter the profession as an apprentice to practicing midwifery rather than attending a formal program. Licensure for direct entry midwives in Oregon is voluntary. Unlicensed midwives may practice in Oregon, but only licensed direct entry midwives are legally authorized to administer legend drugs and devices. Legend drugs and devices are approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and are required by federal or state law to be dispensed to the public only on prescription of a licensed physician or other licensed provider.

To qualify to be licensed, an applicant must complete the minimum core competencies adapted by the general educational requirements listed in the North American Registry of Midwives (NARM) Certified Professional Midwife (CPM) candidate information bulletin. The applicant must also have participated in 25 assisted deliveries, 25 deliveries in which the applicant was the primary care provider, 100 prenatal care visits, 25 newborn examinations and 40 postnatal examinations.

24 states regulate direct entry midwifery by requiring licensure, certification, registration, or permit: AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DE, FL, ID, LA, MN, MT, NH, NJ, NM, NY, RI, SC, TN, TX, VT, VA, WA, WI, WY. Two states have voluntary licensure: OR and UT.

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.
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