

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	7 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Cannon, Doherty, Hoyle, Kennemer, Weidner, Greenlick, Thompson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Parrish
Prepared By:	Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/23, 3/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Clarifies that pharmacist may prescribe and administer vaccines to persons who are at least 11 years of age. Specifies Board of Pharmacy may adopt rules allowing pharmacist to prescribe only as necessary to enroll and participate in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Vaccines for Children Program (VFC). Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- VFC Program
- Current Oregon's Practice Act
- Benefit for pharmacists to become VFC providers
- Immunization access for families
- Eligible children
- Concerns relating to prescribing
- Proposed amendment

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Specifies that Board of Pharmacy may adopt rules allowing pharmacist to prescribe only as necessary to enroll and participate in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention VFC.

BACKGROUND: Pharmacists play a role in providing vaccine administration and education to individuals. Rural areas are commonly underserved by medical personnel who can administer vaccines and immunizations to children; and pharmacists presently administer 85 percent of the flu shots in Oregon. Under ORS 689.645 pharmacists are allowed to administer influenza vaccinations and immunizations to persons 11 years of age or older if the pharmacist has special accreditation or certification.

The Vaccines for Children Program (VFC), established by Congress in 1993, assists families by providing free vaccines to providers who serve eligible children 0 through 18 years of age. The VFC program is administered at the national level by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases. CDC contracts with vaccine manufacturers to buy vaccines at reduced rates. Enrolled VFC providers are able to order vaccine through the state's VFC Program and receive routine vaccines at no cost.

House Bill 3138-A allows pharmacists to become VFC providers to immunize Medicaid children, 11 through 18 years of age, and to receive reimbursement.

3/22/2011 11:34:00 AM

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