

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 5 - 0 - 3
Yeas: Barnhart, Berger, Wingard, Hunt, Olson
Nays: -
Exc.: Freeman, Garrett, Holvey
Prepared By: Jim Stenbridge, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 5/25, 6/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs Oregon Health Authority to establish levels of licensure for emergency medical services (EMS) providers. Modifies emergency medical services provider terminology.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Matching state and federal terminology
- Reciprocity and use of national exams
- National certification and coordination during emergencies with out-of-state responders
- Specific changes needed to Oregon nomenclature

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: According to proponents, House Bill 3667 is intended to place national standard terminology/nomenclature for emergency medical personnel in Oregon statute. This is critical for three reasons, they say: 1) National standard level nomenclature has already changed. Oregon needs to remain consistent for reciprocity of personnel across state lines. If an emergency medical technician (EMT) moves to Oregon from out of state and Oregon has not adopted the new language, the EMT would be prevented from obtaining an Oregon license and volunteering or gaining employment here, simply because of terminology. This has a heavy impact on smaller and rural communities especially. 2) The Oregon Medical Board (OMB) has already adopted the new nomenclature in its administrative rules regarding scope of practice; without the statutory change and Oregon Health Authority (OHA) rule changes this would leave a mismatch between OMB and OHA rules/terminology. 3) During disaster response where EMS personnel come to Oregon to assist or Oregon EMS personnel are deployed elsewhere, having levels that do not match national standard makes it difficult or impossible to assure that responders are used effectively and within a known scope of practice.

The spelling of “indorsement” on page 9 line 4, a legal term meaning a specific type of endorsement, is correct.