

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Be Adopted
Vote: 5 - 0 - 0
Yeas: Bates, Kruse, Morse, Shields, Monnes Anderson
Nays: 0
Exc.: 0
Prepared By: Brian Nieubuurt, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 4/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Congratulates the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific Northwest (COMP-Northwest) upon its creation.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Number of osteopathic doctors in the state
- Osteopathic doctors serving as primary care physicians
- Focus on primary care and rural health
- Funding for COMP-Northwest

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Western University of Health Sciences and Samaritan Health Services have partnered to develop Oregon's first rural medical school. Located in Lebanon, Oregon, the COMP-Northwest campus will be built on the 50-acre Samaritan Campus Center. COMP-Northwest is a start-up, private, not-for-profit medical school with no tax dollar support.

COMP-Northwest is a strategy attempting to address the physician shortage in Oregon and the Northwest, especially in rural areas. Oregon ranks 43rd out of 45 states with a medical school in total medical students per 100,000 people. Additionally, almost 60 percent of Oregon physicians practice in the Greater Portland area.

COMP-Northwest will open in August of 2011 with an initial class of 100 students and will expand to 400 students by 2014.