

House Bill 2391

Ordered printed by the Speaker pursuant to House Rule 12.00A (5). Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Health Care for Oregon Academy of Family Physicians)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requires Oregon Health and Science University to establish primary care transformation research and training center to facilitate use of patient centered primary care home model of health care delivery.

Establishes locum tenens program and interdisciplinary continuing medical education center in Area Health Education Center program to provide substitute services for rural physicians and assist physicians and clinics in implementing patient centered primary care home health care delivery model.

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Oregon Health and Science University to establish and operate primary care transformation research and training center, locum tenens program and interdisciplinary continuing medical education program.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to primary care; creating new provisions; amending ORS 348.117, 353.450 and 442.570; ap-
3 propriating money; and declaring an emergency.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1. (1) The Oregon Health and Science University shall establish a primary care**
6 **transformation research and training center to facilitate the use of the patient centered**
7 **primary care home model in the delivery of primary care.**

8 **(2) The center shall:**

9 **(a) Evaluate the effectiveness of delivery system and practice changes.**

10 **(b) Provide ongoing training for the transformation specialists serving in the locum**
11 **tenens program created by ORS 353.450 to optimize their effectiveness in initiating practice**
12 **transformation throughout the state.**

13 **(c) Set up and facilitate community-based learning collaborations for primary care pro-**
14 **viders.**

15 **SECTION 2. ORS 353.450 is amended to read:**

16 353.450. (1) It is the finding of the Legislative Assembly that there is need to provide programs
17 that will assist a rural community to recruit and retain physicians, physician assistants and nurse
18 practitioners. For that purpose:

19 (a) [*The Legislative Assembly supports the development at*] The Oregon Health and Science Uni-
20 versity [*of*] **shall administer** an Area Health Education Center program as provided for under the
21 United States Public Health Service Act, Section 781.

22 (b) The university shall provide continuing education opportunities for persons licensed to
23 practice medicine under ORS chapter 677 who practice in rural areas of this state in cooperation
24 with the respective professional organizations, including the Oregon Medical Association and the
25 Oregon Society of Physician Assistants.

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 (c) The university shall seek funding through grants and other means to implement and operate
2 a fellowship program for physicians, physician assistants and nurse practitioners intending to prac-
3 tice in rural areas.

4 (2) With the moneys transferred to the Area Health Education Center program by ORS 442.625,
5 the program shall:

6 (a) Establish educational opportunities for emergency medical technicians in rural counties;

7 (b) Contract with educational facilities qualified to conduct emergency medical training pro-
8 grams using a curriculum approved by the Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems Pro-
9 gram; and

10 (c) Review requests for training funds with input from the State Emergency Medical Service
11 Committee and other individuals with expertise in emergency medical services.

12 **(3) The Area Health Education Center program shall include a locum tenens program to:**

13 **(a) Provide temporary relief to rural physicians who need time away from their practices**
14 **by arranging for substitute practitioners to cover office hours and treat patients at a**
15 **below-market cost to the rural physician;**

16 **(b) Offer transformation specialists to bring information to and assist rural clinics and**
17 **physicians in transforming their practices into patient centered primary care home models;**
18 **and**

19 **(c) Encourage and support participation in learning collaboratives to spread successful**
20 **transformation strategies that improve delivery of health care access and outcomes.**

21 **(4) The Area Health Education Center program shall adopt a schedule of fees for services**
22 **provided under subsection (3) of this section. All fees collected shall be used by the Area**
23 **Health Education Center program in the operation of the locum tenens program.**

24 **(5) The Area Health Education Center program shall include an interdisciplinary contin-**
25 **uing medical education program to provide education:**

26 **(a) That focuses on strategies to transform medical practices into patient centered pri-**
27 **mary care home models;**

28 **(b) Across medical disciplines; and**

29 **(c) At the medical clinic or medical practice level.**

30 **SECTION 3.** ORS 348.117, as amended by section 13, chapter 42, Oregon Laws 2010, is amended
31 to read:

32 348.117. (1) Student borrowers under ORS 348.115 shall be required to pay at least seven percent
33 interest per annum on the unpaid balance from the date of the loan as provided in subsection (5)
34 of this section.

35 (2) Repayment of the principal and accruing and deferred interest on loans shall be commenced
36 not later than 12 months after the student's completion of the nursing program or other termination
37 of the student's education.

38 (3) Repayment of loans shall be deferred upon application therefor for up to three years during
39 which:

40 (a) The student borrower is enrolled as at least a half-time student in a subsequent nursing
41 program leading to a nursing degree higher than that attained in the initial program; or

42 (b) The student borrower shows inability to locate suitable employment.

43 (4) Repayment commences under the usual terms if the student borrower ceases to be employed
44 as a nurse in this state before completing the practice requirements set forth in ORS 348.115 (4).

45 (5) Repayment shall be completed in a maximum of 120 months from the time repayment is

1 commenced. However, nothing in this subsection is intended to prevent repayment without penalty
 2 at an earlier date than provided in this subsection or to prohibit the Oregon Student Assistance
 3 Commission from extending the repayment period to a date other than specified by this subsection.

4 (6) A student who borrows under ORS 348.115 shall have 100 percent of principal and accrued
 5 interest on loans under this section, ORS 348.115, [353.450, 442.470,] 442.520 and 656.256 canceled if
 6 it can be documented that, within five years of graduation:

7 (a) The student has completed one calendar year of full-time employment as a nurse in the State
 8 of Oregon for each academic year in which a loan was received; or

9 (b) The student has completed two calendar years of half-time employment as a nurse in the
 10 State of Oregon for each academic year in which a loan was received.

11 (7) A student who borrows under this section, ORS 348.115, [353.450, 442.470,] 442.520 and
 12 656.256 and completes at least one calendar year of the practice obligation described in subsection
 13 (6) of this section shall have the amount of principal and accrued interest on loans under this sec-
 14 tion, ORS 348.115, [353.450, 442.470,] 442.520 and 656.256 canceled for each calendar year of quali-
 15 fying practice that is:

16 (a) For full-time practice, equal to the principal and accrued interest on the loan borrowed for
 17 the comparable academic year of award; or

18 (b) For half-time practice, equal to half of the principal and accrued interest on the loan bor-
 19 rowed for the comparable academic year of the award.

20 (8) Repayment of any remaining principal and interest shall be waived upon the death or total
 21 and permanent disability of the student borrower.

22 **SECTION 4.** ORS 442.570 is amended to read:

23 442.570. (1) There is established in the State Treasury a fund, separate and distinct from the
 24 General Fund, to be known as the Rural Health Services Fund[.]. **Moneys in the fund are con-**
 25 **tinuously appropriated to Department of Administrative Services for allocation to the Office**
 26 **of Rural Health** for investments as provided by ORS 293.701 to 293.820[,] **and** for the payment of
 27 expenses of the [*Oregon Student Assistance Commission*] **Office of Rural Health** in carrying out the
 28 purposes of ORS 315.613, 315.616, 315.619, [353.450, 442.470,] 442.503 and 442.550 to 442.570. Interest
 29 earned by the account shall be credited to the account.

30 (2) The Office of Rural Health shall seek matching funds from communities that benefit from
 31 placement of practitioners under ORS 442.550 to 442.570. The office shall establish a program to
 32 enroll interested communities in this program and deposit money proceeds from this effort in the
 33 Rural Health Services Fund. In addition, the office shall explore other funding sources including
 34 federal grant programs.

35 **SECTION 5.** ORS 442.570, as amended by section 5, chapter 42, Oregon Laws 2010, is amended
 36 to read:

37 442.570. (1) There is established in the State Treasury a fund, separate and distinct from the
 38 General Fund, to be known as the Primary Care Services Fund. Moneys in the Primary Care Ser-
 39 vices Fund are continuously appropriated to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services for
 40 allocation to the Office of Rural Health for investments as provided by ORS 293.701 to 293.820, for
 41 expenses and payments by the office in carrying out the purposes of ORS 315.613, 315.616, 315.619,
 42 [353.450, 442.470,] 442.503 and 442.550 to 442.570. Interest earned by the fund shall be credited to the
 43 fund.

44 (2) The office shall seek matching funds from the federal government and from communities that
 45 benefit from placement of participants under ORS 442.550 to 442.570. The office shall establish a

1 program to enroll interested communities in this program and deposit moneys from the matching
2 funds and from the Primary Care Services Program in the Primary Care Services Fund. In addition,
3 the office shall explore other funding sources including federal grant programs.

4 **SECTION 6. There is appropriated to the Oregon Health and Science University, for the**
5 **biennium beginning July 1, 2011, out of the General Fund:**

6 (1) **The amount of \$400,000 for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of section 1 of**
7 **this 2011 Act;**

8 (2) **The amount of \$300,000 for the purpose of establishing and operating the locum tenens**
9 **program created by ORS 353.450, as amended by section 2 of this 2011 Act; and**

10 (3) **The amount of \$700,000 for the purpose of establishing and operating the interdisci-**
11 **plinary continuing medical education program created by ORS 353.450, as amended by section**
12 **2 of this 2011 Act.**

13 **SECTION 7. Section 1 and the amendments to ORS 353.450 by section 2 of this 2011 Act**
14 **become operative January 1, 2012.**

15 **SECTION 8. The Oregon Health and Science University make take any actions prior to**
16 **the operative date specified in section 7 of this 2011 Act to carry out the provisions of section**
17 **1 of this 2011 Act and the amendments to ORS 353.450 by section 2 of this 2011 Act on and**
18 **after the operative date specified in section 7 of this 2011 Act.**

19 **SECTION 9. This 2011 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
20 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2011 Act takes effect**
21 **on its passage.**

22