

# Senate Bill 723

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE, HUMAN SERVICES AND RURAL HEALTH POLICY

## 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**.

Changes name of Respiratory Therapist Licensing Board to Respiratory Therapist and Polysomnographic Technologist Licensing Board. Expands board membership to include two individuals who practice polysomnography.

Directs board to license polysomnographic technologists beginning January 1, 2012.

Prohibits practice of polysomnography by person other than licensed polysomnographic technologist. Makes prohibition operative January 1, 2013.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to the regulation of polysomnography; creating new provisions; amending ORS 192.519,  
3 433.443, 676.150, 676.606, 676.992, 688.800, 688.805, 688.810, 688.815, 688.820, 688.825, 688.830,  
4 688.834, 688.836, 688.838, 688.840 and 746.600; and declaring an emergency.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** ORS 688.800 is amended to read:

7 688.800. As used in ORS 688.800 to 688.840:

8 *[(1) "Board" means the Respiratory Therapist Licensing Board, established within the Oregon*  
9 *Health Licensing Agency.]*

10 **(1) "Polysomnographic technologist" means a person licensed under section 8 of this 2011**  
11 **Act.**

12 **(2) "Polysomnography" means the treatment, management, diagnostic testing, education**  
13 **and care of patients with disorders related to sleep. "Polysomnography" includes, but is not**  
14 **limited to:**

15 **(a) The use of the following in connection with disorders related to sleep:**

16 **(A) Oxygen;**

17 **(B) Continuous or bilevel positive airway pressure titration using a mask or oral appli-**  
18 **ance, if the mask or oral appliance does not extend into the trachea or attach to an artificial**  
19 **airway;**

20 **(C) Capnography during a polysomnogram;**

21 **(D) Cardiopulmonary resuscitation;**

22 **(E) Pulse oximetry;**

23 **(F) Gastroesophageal pH monitoring;**

24 **(G) Esophageal pressure monitoring;**

25 **(H) Sleep staging, including surface electroencephalography, surface electrooculography**  
26 **and submental surface electromyography;**

27 **(I) Electrocardiography;**

28 **(J) Respiratory effort monitoring, including thoracic and abdominal movement monitor-**

**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 ing;

2 (K) Plethysmography blood flow monitoring;

3 (L) Snore monitoring;

4 (M) Audio or video monitoring;

5 (N) Body movement monitoring;

6 (O) Nocturnal penile tumescence monitoring;

7 (P) Nasal and oral airflow monitoring;

8 (Q) Body temperature monitoring; or

9 (R) Portable monitoring devices and other medical equipment used to treat sleep disorders; and

10  
11 (b) Analyzing data for the purpose of assisting a physician in the diagnosis and treatment  
12 of disorders related to sleep.

13 [(2)] (3) "Qualified medical director" means the medical director of any inpatient or outpatient  
14 respiratory care service, department or home care agency who is a physician licensed [*by the State*  
15 *of Oregon*] **under ORS chapter 677** and who has special interest and knowledge in the diagnosis  
16 and treatment of respiratory problems.

17 [(3)] (4) "Respiratory care" means the treatment, management, diagnostic testing, control and  
18 care of patients with deficiencies and abnormalities associated with the cardiopulmonary system in  
19 accordance with the prescription of a licensed physician and under a qualified medical director.  
20 "Respiratory care" includes, but is not limited to:

21 (a) Direct and indirect respiratory care services, including but not limited to the administration  
22 of pharmacological, diagnostic and therapeutic agents related to respiratory care procedures neces-  
23 sary to implement a treatment, disease prevention, pulmonary rehabilitative or diagnostic regimen  
24 prescribed by a physician;

25 (b) Transcription and implementation of the written or verbal orders of a physician pertaining  
26 to the practice of respiratory care;

27 (c) Observing and monitoring signs and symptoms, reactions, general behaviors, general physical  
28 responses to respiratory care treatment and diagnostic testing, including determination of whether  
29 such signs, symptoms, reactions, general behaviors or general physical responses exhibit abnormal  
30 characteristics;

31 (d) Implementation based on observed abnormalities, or appropriate reporting, referral, respir-  
32 atory care protocols or changes in treatment, pursuant to a prescription by a person authorized to  
33 practice medicine under the laws of this state; and

34 (e) The initiation of emergency procedures under the rules of the board or as otherwise per-  
35 mitted under ORS 688.800 to 688.840.

36 [(4)] (5) "Respiratory care practitioner" means a person licensed under ORS [*688.800 to*  
37 *688.840*] **688.815**.

38 [(5)] (6) "Respiratory care services" means cardiopulmonary care services rendered in accord-  
39 ance with the prescription of a licensed physician and includes, but is not limited to, the diagnostic  
40 and therapeutic use of the following:

41 (a) Except for the purpose of anesthesia, administration of medical gases, aerosols and  
42 humidification;

43 (b) Environmental control mechanisms and hyperbaric therapy;

44 (c) Pharmacologic agents related to respiratory care procedures;

45 (d) Mechanical or physiological ventilatory support;

1 (e) Bronchopulmonary hygiene;

2 (f) Cardiopulmonary resuscitation;

3 (g) Maintenance of the natural airway;

4 (h) Maintenance of artificial airways;

5 (i) Specific diagnostic and testing techniques employed in the medical management of patients  
6 to assist in diagnosis, monitoring, treatment and research of pulmonary abnormalities, including  
7 measurements of ventilatory volumes, pressures and flows, collection of specimens of blood and  
8 blood gases, expired and inspired gas samples, respiratory secretions and pulmonary function testing;  
9 and

10 (j) Hemodynamic and other related physiologic measurements of the cardiopulmonary system.

11 **SECTION 2.** ORS 688.805 is amended to read:

12 688.805. *[(1) No person shall practice respiratory care or claim to be a respiratory care practitioner*  
13 *unless the person is licensed under ORS 688.800 to 688.840.]*

14 *[(2)]* **(1)** Nothing in ORS 688.800 to 688.840 is intended to limit, preclude or otherwise interfere  
15 with the practices of other persons and health providers licensed by appropriate agencies of this  
16 state.

17 *[(3)]* **(2)** Nothing in ORS 688.800 to 688.840 prohibits:

18 (a) The practice of respiratory care by *[students]* **a student** enrolled in a respiratory care edu-  
19 cation program approved by the American Medical Association in collaboration with the Joint Re-  
20 view Committee for Respiratory Therapy Education or their successors or equivalent organizations,  
21 as approved by the **Respiratory Therapist and Polysomnographic Technologist Licensing Board**.

22 **(b) The practice of polysomnography by a student who is:**

23 **(A) Enrolled in an educational program for polysomnography approved by the board; and**  
24 **(B) In the physical presence of a supervisor approved by the board.**

25 *[(b)]* **(c)** Self-care by a patient, or gratuitous care by a friend or family member who does not  
26 claim to be a respiratory care practitioner.

27 *[(c)]* **(d)** Respiratory care services rendered in the course of an emergency.

28 *[(4)]* **(3)** Persons in the military services or working in federal facilities are exempt from the  
29 provisions of ORS 688.800 to 688.840 when functioning in the course of assigned duties.

30 *[(5)]* **(4)** Nothing in ORS 688.800 to 688.840 is intended to permit the practice of medicine by a  
31 person licensed to practice respiratory care **or polysomnography** unless the person is also licensed  
32 to practice medicine.

33 *[(6)]* **(5)** The practice of respiratory care:

34 **(a)** May be performed in any clinic, hospital, skilled nursing facility, private dwelling or other  
35 place *[considered appropriate or necessary]* **approved** by the *[Respiratory Therapist Licensing]*  
36 board.

37 **(b) Must be performed** in accordance with the prescription or verbal order of a physician *[and*  
38 *shall be performed under a qualified medical director]*.

39 **(6) The practice of polysomnography:**

40 **(a) May be performed in a clinic, hospital, skilled nursing facility, sleep center, sleep**  
41 **laboratory, physician's office, private dwelling or other place approved by the board.**

42 **(b) Must be performed under the supervision of and in accordance with the appropriately**  
43 **documented order of a physician.**

44 **SECTION 3.** ORS 688.810 is amended to read:

45 688.810. **(1)** A *[person holding a license to practice respiratory care in this state]* **respiratory care**

1 **practitioner** may use the title “Licensed Respiratory Care Practitioner” and the abbreviation  
2 “LRCP.”

3 **(2) A polysomnographic technologist may use the title “Licensed Sleep Technologist” or**  
4 **“Licensed Polysomnographic Technologist” and the abbreviation “LST.”**

5 **SECTION 4.** ORS 688.815 is amended to read:

6 688.815. (1) An applicant for a license to practice respiratory care shall:

7 (a) Submit to the Oregon Health Licensing Agency written evidence that the applicant:

8 [(a)] (A) Is at least 18 years of age;

9 [(b)] (B) Has completed an approved four-year high school course of study or the equivalent as  
10 determined by the appropriate educational agency; and

11 [(c)] (C) Has completed a respiratory care education program approved by the American Medical  
12 Association in collaboration with the Joint Review Committee for Respiratory Therapy Education  
13 or their successors or equivalent organizations, as approved by the Respiratory Therapist **and**  
14 **Polysomnographic Technologist** Licensing Board[.]; **and**

15 **(b) Pass an examination approved by the board.**

16 [(2) *The applicant shall be required to pass an examination, approved by the board, whereupon the*  
17 *agency may issue to the applicant a license to practice respiratory care.*]

18 [(3)] (2) The agency may [*choose to*] issue a license to practice respiratory care by endorsement  
19 or reciprocity to:

20 (a) An applicant who is currently licensed to practice respiratory care under the laws of another  
21 state, territory or country if the qualifications of the applicant are considered by the agency to be  
22 equivalent to those required in this state; or

23 (b) An applicant holding [*a*] **an active** credential conferred by the National Board for Respir-  
24 atory Care as a Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) or as a Registered Respiratory Therapist  
25 (RRT), or both[, *providing the credential has not been suspended or revoked*].

26 [(4)] (3) Except as provided in subsection [(8)] (7) of this section, all licenses expire on the last  
27 day of the month, one year from the date of issuance.

28 [(5)(a) *The licensee is responsible for filing a license renewal application form.*]

29 [(b)] (4) [*The*] **To renew a license to practice respiratory care**, a licensee must submit to the  
30 agency a completed renewal application, required renewal fee and satisfactory evidence of [*having*  
31 *completed*] **completion of** any required continuing education credits on or before the expiration date  
32 of the license as specified by agency rule.

33 [(6)] (5) The agency shall adopt by rule requirements for late renewal of a license, reactivation  
34 of an expired license or reinstatement of a license that has been expired for more than three con-  
35 secutive years.

36 [(7)] (6) If the license of a respiratory care practitioner has been denied, suspended or revoked  
37 for commission of a prohibited act under ORS 676.612, the agency may refuse to issue or renew the  
38 license for up to one year from the date of denial, suspension or revocation.

39 [(8)] (7) The agency may vary the date of license renewal by giving the applicant written notice  
40 of the renewal date being assigned and by making prorated adjustments to the renewal fee.

41 **SECTION 5. Sections 6 to 9 of this 2011 Act are added to and made a part of ORS 688.800**  
42 **to 688.840.**

43 **SECTION 6. A person may not practice respiratory care or claim to be a respiratory care**  
44 **practitioner unless the person is licensed under ORS 688.815.**

45 **SECTION 7. A person may not practice polysomnography or claim to be a**

1 polysomnographic technologist unless the person is licensed under section 8 of this 2011 Act.

2 **SECTION 8.** (1) An applicant for a polysomnographic technologist license shall:

3 (a) Submit to the Oregon Health Licensing Agency written evidence that the applicant:

4 (A) Is at least 18 years of age;

5 (B) Has completed an approved four-year high school course of study or the equivalent  
6 as determined by the appropriate educational agency; and

7 (C) Has completed a polysomnography education program approved by the Respiratory  
8 Therapist and Polysomnographic Technologist Licensing Board; and

9 (b) Pass an examination approved by the board.

10 (2) The agency may issue a polysomnographic technologist license by endorsement or  
11 reciprocity to:

12 (a) An applicant who is currently licensed to practice polysomnography under the laws  
13 of another state, territory or country if the qualifications of the applicant are considered by  
14 the agency to be equivalent to those required in this state; or

15 (b) An applicant holding an active credential approved by the board.

16 (3) Except as provided in subsection (7) of this section, all licenses expire on the last day  
17 of the month, one year from the date of issuance.

18 (4) To renew a polysomnographic technologist license, a licensee must submit to the  
19 agency a completed renewal application, required renewal fee and satisfactory evidence of  
20 completion of any required continuing education credits on or before the expiration date of  
21 the license as specified by agency rule.

22 (5) The agency shall adopt by rule requirements for late renewal of a license, reactivation  
23 of an expired license or reinstatement of a license that has been expired for more than three  
24 consecutive years.

25 (6) If a polysomnographic technologist license has been denied, suspended or revoked for  
26 commission of a prohibited act under ORS 676.612, the agency may refuse to issue or renew  
27 the license for up to one year from the date of denial, suspension or revocation.

28 (7) The agency may vary the date of license renewal by giving the applicant written no-  
29 tice of the renewal date being assigned and by making prorated adjustments to the renewal  
30 fee.

31 (8) The agency may issue a temporary permit to practice polysomnography in accordance  
32 with rules adopted by the agency.

33 **SECTION 9.** Notwithstanding ORS 688.805:

34 (1) A respiratory care practitioner may not practice polysomnography without a license  
35 issued under section 8 of this 2011 Act, unless the act is within the scope of practice of a  
36 respiratory care practitioner.

37 (2) A polysomnographic technologist may not practice respiratory care without a license  
38 issued under ORS 688.815, unless the act is within the scope of practice of a  
39 polysomnographic technologist.

40 **SECTION 10.** ORS 688.820 is amended to read:

41 688.820. (1) There is established within the Oregon Health Licensing Agency the Respiratory  
42 Therapist and Polysomnographic Technologist Licensing Board. The board consists of [five] seven  
43 members appointed by the Governor and subject to confirmation by the Senate in the manner pro-  
44 vided in ORS 171.562 and 171.565. All members of the board must be residents of this state.

45 (2) Of the members of the board:

- 1 (a) [Four] **Three** must be respiratory care practitioners; [and]
- 2 **(b) Two must be individuals who practice polysomnography;**
- 3 **(c) One must be a qualified medical director; and**
- 4 [(b)] **(d)** One must be a member of the general public.

5 (3) Board members required to be respiratory care practitioners **or individuals who practice**  
 6 **polysomnography** must have engaged in the practice of respiratory care **or polysomnography** for  
 7 a period of five or more years immediately preceding appointment to the board.

8 (4)(a) Board members may be selected by the Governor from a list of three to five nominees for  
 9 each vacancy, submitted by the Oregon Society for Respiratory Care or another professional or-  
 10 ganization representing respiratory care practitioners **or polysomnographic technologists.**

11 (b) In selecting the members of the board, the Governor shall strive to balance the represen-  
 12 tation on the board according to:

- 13 (A) Geographic areas of this state; and
- 14 (B) Ethnic group.

15 (5)(a) The term of office of each member of the board is four years, but a member serves at the  
 16 pleasure of the Governor. The terms must be staggered so that no more than two terms end each  
 17 year. Vacancies shall be filled by the Governor by appointment for the unexpired term. A member  
 18 shall hold the member's office until the appointment and qualification of a successor. A member is  
 19 eligible for reappointment. If a person serves two consecutive full terms, a period of at least four  
 20 years must elapse before the person is again eligible for appointment to serve on the board.

21 (b) A board member shall be removed immediately from the board if, during the member's term,  
 22 the member:

- 23 (A) Is not a resident of this state;
- 24 (B) Has been absent from three consecutive board meetings, unless at least one absence is ex-  
 25 cused; [or]
- 26 (C) Is not a respiratory care practitioner or a retired respiratory care practitioner whose license  
 27 was in good standing at the time of retirement, **if the member was appointed to serve as a re-**  
 28 **spiratory care practitioner; or**

29 **(D) Is not an individual who practices polysomnography, if the member was appointed to**  
 30 **serve as an individual who practices polysomnography.**

31 (6) A member of the board is entitled to compensation and expenses as provided in ORS 292.495.  
 32 The agency may provide by rule for compensation to board members for the performance of official  
 33 duties at a rate that is greater than the rate provided in ORS 292.495.

34 **SECTION 11.** ORS 688.825 is amended to read:

35 688.825. (1) The Respiratory Therapist **and Polysomnographic Technologist** Licensing Board  
 36 shall select one of its members as chairperson and another as vice chairperson, for those terms and  
 37 with duties and powers necessary for the performance of the functions of those offices as the board  
 38 determines.

39 (2) A majority of the members of the board constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.

40 (3) The board shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson or of a  
 41 majority of the members of the board.

42 **SECTION 12.** ORS 688.830 is amended to read:

43 688.830. (1) The Oregon Health Licensing Agency shall:

44 (a) Determine the qualifications and fitness of applicants for licensure, renewal of license and  
 45 reciprocal licenses under ORS 688.800 to 688.840.

1 (b) Adopt rules that are necessary to conduct its business related to, carry out its duties under  
2 and administer ORS 688.800 to 688.840.

3 (c) Examine, approve, issue, deny, revoke, suspend and renew licenses to practice respiratory  
4 care **and polysomnography** under ORS 688.800 to 688.840.

5 (d) Maintain a public record of persons licensed by the agency to practice respiratory care **and**  
6 **polysomnography**.

7 (2) The Respiratory Therapist **and Polysomnographic Technologist** Licensing Board shall:

8 (a) Establish standards of practice and professional responsibility for persons licensed by the  
9 agency.

10 (b) Select a licensing examination **for respiratory care practitioners** that meets the standards  
11 of the National Commission for Certifying Agencies or an equivalent that is nationally recognized  
12 in testing respiratory care competencies.

13 (c) Establish continuing education requirements for renewal of a license.

14 (d) Provide for waivers of examinations, grandfathering requirements and temporary licenses as  
15 considered appropriate.

16 **SECTION 13.** ORS 688.834 is amended to read:

17 688.834. (1) The Oregon Health Licensing Agency shall establish by rule and collect fees and  
18 charges for the following related to respiratory care practitioners **and polysomnographic**  
19 **technologists**:

20 (a) Application;

21 (b) Examinations;

22 (c) Original license;

23 (d) License renewal;

24 (e) License reactivation;

25 (f) Replacement or duplicate license;

26 (g) Delinquent renewal;

27 (h) Reciprocity; and

28 (i) Providing copies of official documents or records and for recovering administrative costs as-  
29 sociated with compiling, photocopying or preparing and delivering the records.

30 (2) All moneys received by the agency under subsection (1) of this section shall be paid into the  
31 General Fund of the State Treasury and credited to the Oregon Health Licensing Agency Account,  
32 and are appropriated continuously to and shall be used by the agency as authorized by ORS 676.625.

33 **SECTION 14.** ORS 688.836 is amended to read:

34 688.836. In the manner prescribed in ORS chapter 183 for contested cases, the Oregon Health  
35 Licensing Agency may impose a form of discipline specified in ORS 676.612 against any person  
36 practicing respiratory care **or polysomnography** for any of the grounds listed in ORS 676.612 and  
37 for any violation of the provisions of ORS 688.800 to 688.840, or the rules adopted thereunder.

38 **SECTION 15.** ORS 688.838 is amended to read:

39 688.838. Unless state or federal laws relating to confidentiality or the protection of health in-  
40 formation prohibit disclosure, a respiratory care practitioner **or polysomnographic technologist**  
41 who has reasonable cause to believe that a licensee of another board has engaged in prohibited  
42 conduct as defined in ORS 676.150 shall report the prohibited conduct in the manner provided in  
43 ORS 676.150.

44 **SECTION 16.** ORS 688.840 is amended to read:

45 688.840. The Respiratory Therapist **and Polysomnographic Technologist** Licensing Board and

1 its members and the Oregon Health Licensing Agency and its employees and contractors are im-  
 2 mune from any civil liability arising from good faith actions taken pursuant to ORS 688.800 to  
 3 688.840.

4 **SECTION 17.** ORS 192.519 is amended to read:

5 192.519. As used in ORS 192.518 to 192.529:

6 (1) "Authorization" means a document written in plain language that contains at least the fol-  
 7 lowing:

8 (a) A description of the information to be used or disclosed that identifies the information in a  
 9 specific and meaningful way;

10 (b) The name or other specific identification of the person or persons authorized to make the  
 11 requested use or disclosure;

12 (c) The name or other specific identification of the person or persons to whom the covered entity  
 13 may make the requested use or disclosure;

14 (d) A description of each purpose of the requested use or disclosure, including but not limited  
 15 to a statement that the use or disclosure is at the request of the individual;

16 (e) An expiration date or an expiration event that relates to the individual or the purpose of the  
 17 use or disclosure;

18 (f) The signature of the individual or personal representative of the individual and the date;

19 (g) A description of the authority of the personal representative, if applicable; and

20 (h) Statements adequate to place the individual on notice of the following:

21 (A) The individual's right to revoke the authorization in writing;

22 (B) The exceptions to the right to revoke the authorization;

23 (C) The ability or inability to condition treatment, payment, enrollment or eligibility for benefits  
 24 on whether the individual signs the authorization; and

25 (D) The potential for information disclosed pursuant to the authorization to be subject to  
 26 redisclosure by the recipient and no longer protected.

27 (2) "Covered entity" means:

28 (a) A state health plan;

29 (b) A health insurer;

30 (c) A health care provider that transmits any health information in electronic form to carry out  
 31 financial or administrative activities in connection with a transaction covered by ORS 192.518 to  
 32 192.529; or

33 (d) A health care clearinghouse.

34 (3) "Health care" means care, services or supplies related to the health of an individual.

35 (4) "Health care operations" includes but is not limited to:

36 (a) Quality assessment, accreditation, auditing and improvement activities;

37 (b) Case management and care coordination;

38 (c) Reviewing the competence, qualifications or performance of health care providers or health  
 39 insurers;

40 (d) Underwriting activities;

41 (e) Arranging for legal services;

42 (f) Business planning;

43 (g) Customer services;

44 (h) Resolving internal grievances;

45 (i) Creating de-identified information; and



- 1 (j) Fundraising.
- 2 (5) “Health care provider” includes but is not limited to:
- 3 (a) A psychologist, occupational therapist, regulated social worker, professional counselor or  
4 marriage and family therapist licensed or otherwise authorized to practice under ORS chapter 675  
5 or an employee of the psychologist, occupational therapist, regulated social worker, professional  
6 counselor or marriage and family therapist;
- 7 (b) A physician, podiatric physician and surgeon, physician assistant or acupuncturist licensed  
8 under ORS chapter 677 or an employee of the physician, podiatric physician and surgeon, physician  
9 assistant or acupuncturist;
- 10 (c) A nurse or nursing home administrator licensed under ORS chapter 678 or an employee of  
11 the nurse or nursing home administrator;
- 12 (d) A dentist licensed under ORS chapter 679 or an employee of the dentist;
- 13 (e) A dental hygienist or denturist licensed under ORS chapter 680 or an employee of the dental  
14 hygienist or denturist;
- 15 (f) A speech-language pathologist or audiologist licensed under ORS chapter 681 or an employee  
16 of the speech-language pathologist or audiologist;
- 17 (g) An emergency medical technician certified under ORS chapter 682;
- 18 (h) An optometrist licensed under ORS chapter 683 or an employee of the optometrist;
- 19 (i) A chiropractic physician licensed under ORS chapter 684 or an employee of the chiropractic  
20 physician;
- 21 (j) A naturopathic physician licensed under ORS chapter 685 or an employee of the naturopathic  
22 physician;
- 23 (k) A massage therapist licensed under ORS 687.011 to 687.250 or an employee of the massage  
24 therapist;
- 25 (L) A direct entry midwife licensed under ORS 687.405 to 687.495 or an employee of the direct  
26 entry midwife;
- 27 (m) A physical therapist licensed under ORS 688.010 to 688.201 or an employee of the physical  
28 therapist;
- 29 (n) A medical imaging licensee under ORS 688.405 to 688.605 or an employee of the medical  
30 imaging licensee;
- 31 (o) A respiratory care practitioner licensed under ORS [688.800 to 688.840] **688.815** or an em-  
32 ployee of the respiratory care practitioner;
- 33 **(p) A polysomnographic technologist licensed under section 8 of this 2011 Act or an em-**  
34 **ployee of the polysomnographic technologist;**
- 35 [(p)] (q) A pharmacist licensed under ORS chapter 689 or an employee of the pharmacist;
- 36 [(q)] (r) A dietitian licensed under ORS 691.405 to 691.585 or an employee of the dietitian;
- 37 [(r)] (s) A funeral service practitioner licensed under ORS chapter 692 or an employee of the  
38 funeral service practitioner;
- 39 [(s)] (t) A health care facility as defined in ORS 442.015;
- 40 [(t)] (u) A home health agency as defined in ORS 443.005;
- 41 [(u)] (v) A hospice program as defined in ORS 443.850;
- 42 [(v)] (w) A clinical laboratory as defined in ORS 438.010;
- 43 [(w)] (x) A pharmacy as defined in ORS 689.005;
- 44 [(x)] (y) A diabetes self-management program as defined in ORS 743A.184; and
- 45 [(y)] (z) Any other person or entity that furnishes, bills for or is paid for health care in the

1 normal course of business.

2 (6) "Health information" means any oral or written information in any form or medium that:

3 (a) Is created or received by a covered entity, a public health authority, an employer, a life  
4 insurer, a school, a university or a health care provider that is not a covered entity; and

5 (b) Relates to:

6 (A) The past, present or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual;

7 (B) The provision of health care to an individual; or

8 (C) The past, present or future payment for the provision of health care to an individual.

9 (7) "Health insurer" means:

10 (a) An insurer as defined in ORS 731.106 who offers:

11 (A) A health benefit plan as defined in ORS 743.730;

12 (B) A short term health insurance policy, the duration of which does not exceed six months in-  
13 cluding renewals;

14 (C) A student health insurance policy;

15 (D) A Medicare supplemental policy; or

16 (E) A dental only policy.

17 (b) The Oregon Medical Insurance Pool operated by the Oregon Medical Insurance Pool Board  
18 under ORS 735.600 to 735.650.

19 (8) "Individually identifiable health information" means any oral or written health information  
20 in any form or medium that is:

21 (a) Created or received by a covered entity, an employer or a health care provider that is not  
22 a covered entity; and

23 (b) Identifiable to an individual, including demographic information that identifies the individual,  
24 or for which there is a reasonable basis to believe the information can be used to identify an indi-  
25 vidual, and that relates to:

26 (A) The past, present or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual;

27 (B) The provision of health care to an individual; or

28 (C) The past, present or future payment for the provision of health care to an individual.

29 (9) "Payment" includes but is not limited to:

30 (a) Efforts to obtain premiums or reimbursement;

31 (b) Determining eligibility or coverage;

32 (c) Billing activities;

33 (d) Claims management;

34 (e) Reviewing health care to determine medical necessity;

35 (f) Utilization review; and

36 (g) Disclosures to consumer reporting agencies.

37 (10) "Personal representative" includes but is not limited to:

38 (a) A person appointed as a guardian under ORS 125.305, 419B.370, 419C.481 or 419C.555 with  
39 authority to make medical and health care decisions;

40 (b) A person appointed as a health care representative under ORS 127.505 to 127.660 or a rep-  
41 resentative under ORS 127.700 to 127.737 to make health care decisions or mental health treatment  
42 decisions;

43 (c) A person appointed as a personal representative under ORS chapter 113; and

44 (d) A person described in ORS 192.526.

45 (11)(a) "Protected health information" means individually identifiable health information that is

1 maintained or transmitted in any form of electronic or other medium by a covered entity.

2 (b) "Protected health information" does not mean individually identifiable health information in:

3 (A) Education records covered by the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (20  
4 U.S.C. 1232g);

5 (B) Records described at 20 U.S.C. 1232g(a)(4)(B)(iv); or

6 (C) Employment records held by a covered entity in its role as employer.

7 (12) "State health plan" means:

8 (a) Medical assistance as defined in ORS 414.025;

9 (b) The Health Care for All Oregon Children program;

10 (c) The Family Health Insurance Assistance Program established in ORS 414.841 to 414.864; or

11 (d) Any medical assistance or premium assistance program operated by the Oregon Health Au-  
12 thority.

13 (13) "Treatment" includes but is not limited to:

14 (a) The provision, coordination or management of health care; and

15 (b) Consultations and referrals between health care providers.

16 **SECTION 18.** ORS 433.443 is amended to read:

17 433.443. (1) As used in this section:

18 (a) "Covered entity" means:

19 (A) The Children's Health Insurance Program;

20 (B) The Family Health Insurance Assistance Program established under ORS 414.842;

21 (C) A health insurer that is an insurer as defined in ORS 731.106 and that issues health insur-  
22 ance as defined in ORS 731.162;

23 (D) The state medical assistance program; and

24 (E) A health care provider.

25 (b) "Health care provider" includes but is not limited to:

26 (A) A psychologist, occupational therapist, regulated social worker, professional counselor or  
27 marriage and family therapist licensed or otherwise authorized to practice under ORS chapter 675  
28 or an employee of the psychologist, occupational therapist, regulated social worker, professional  
29 counselor or marriage and family therapist;

30 (B) A physician, podiatric physician and surgeon, physician assistant or acupuncturist licensed  
31 under ORS chapter 677 or an employee of the physician, podiatric physician and surgeon, physician  
32 assistant or acupuncturist;

33 (C) A nurse or nursing home administrator licensed under ORS chapter 678 or an employee of  
34 the nurse or nursing home administrator;

35 (D) A dentist licensed under ORS chapter 679 or an employee of the dentist;

36 (E) A dental hygienist or denturist licensed under ORS chapter 680 or an employee of the dental  
37 hygienist or denturist;

38 (F) A speech-language pathologist or audiologist licensed under ORS chapter 681 or an employee  
39 of the speech-language pathologist or audiologist;

40 (G) An emergency medical technician certified under ORS chapter 682;

41 (H) An optometrist licensed under ORS chapter 683 or an employee of the optometrist;

42 (I) A chiropractic physician licensed under ORS chapter 684 or an employee of the chiropractic  
43 physician;

44 (J) A naturopathic physician licensed under ORS chapter 685 or an employee of the naturopathic  
45 physician;

1 (K) A massage therapist licensed under ORS 687.011 to 687.250 or an employee of the massage  
2 therapist;

3 (L) A direct entry midwife licensed under ORS 687.405 to 687.495 or an employee of the direct  
4 entry midwife;

5 (M) A physical therapist licensed under ORS 688.010 to 688.201 or an employee of the physical  
6 therapist;

7 (N) A medical imaging licensee under ORS 688.405 to 688.605 or an employee of the medical  
8 imaging licensee;

9 (O) A respiratory care practitioner licensed under ORS [688.800 to 688.840] **688.815** or an em-  
10 ployee of the respiratory care practitioner;

11 **(P) A polysomnographic technologist licensed under section 8 of this 2011 Act or an em-**  
12 **ployee of the polysomnographic technologist;**

13 [(P)] (Q) A pharmacist licensed under ORS chapter 689 or an employee of the pharmacist;

14 [(Q)] (R) A dietitian licensed under ORS 691.405 to 691.585 or an employee of the dietitian;

15 [(R)] (S) A funeral service practitioner licensed under ORS chapter 692 or an employee of the  
16 funeral service practitioner;

17 [(S)] (T) A health care facility as defined in ORS 442.015;

18 [(T)] (U) A home health agency as defined in ORS 443.005;

19 [(U)] (V) A hospice program as defined in ORS 443.850;

20 [(V)] (W) A clinical laboratory as defined in ORS 438.010;

21 [(W)] (X) A pharmacy as defined in ORS 689.005;

22 [(X)] (Y) A diabetes self-management program as defined in ORS 743A.184; and

23 [(Y)] (Z) Any other person or entity that furnishes, bills for or is paid for health care in the  
24 normal course of business.

25 (c) "Individual" means a natural person.

26 (d) "Individually identifiable health information" means any oral or written health information  
27 in any form or medium that is:

28 (A) Created or received by a covered entity, an employer or a health care provider that is not  
29 a covered entity; and

30 (B) Identifiable to an individual, including demographic information that identifies the individual,  
31 or for which there is a reasonable basis to believe the information can be used to identify an indi-  
32 vidual, and that relates to:

33 (i) The past, present or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual;

34 (ii) The provision of health care to an individual; or

35 (iii) The past, present or future payment for the provision of health care to an individual.

36 (e) "Legal representative" means attorney at law, person holding a general power of attorney,  
37 guardian, conservator or any person appointed by a court to manage the personal or financial affairs  
38 of a person, or agency legally responsible for the welfare or support of a person.

39 (2)(a) During a public health emergency declared under ORS 433.441, the Public Health Director  
40 may, as necessary to appropriately respond to the public health emergency:

41 (A) Adopt reporting requirements for and provide notice of those requirements to health care  
42 providers, institutions and facilities for the purpose of obtaining information directly related to the  
43 public health emergency;

44 (B) After consultation with appropriate medical experts, create and require the use of diagnostic  
45 and treatment protocols to respond to the public health emergency and provide notice of those

1 protocols to health care providers, institutions and facilities;

2 (C) Order, or authorize local public health administrators to order, public health measures ap-  
3 propriate to the public health threat presented;

4 (D) Upon approval of the Governor, take other actions necessary to address the public health  
5 emergency and provide notice of those actions to health care providers, institutions and facilities,  
6 including public health actions authorized by ORS 431.264;

7 (E) Take any enforcement action authorized by ORS 431.262, including the imposition of civil  
8 penalties of up to \$500 per day against individuals, institutions or facilities that knowingly fail to  
9 comply with requirements resulting from actions taken in accordance with the powers granted to  
10 the Public Health Director under subparagraphs (A), (B) and (D) of this paragraph; and

11 (F) The authority granted to the Public Health Director under this section:

12 (i) Supersedes any authority granted to a local public health authority if the local public health  
13 authority acts in a manner inconsistent with guidelines established or rules adopted by the director  
14 under this section; and

15 (ii) Does not supersede the general authority granted to a local public health authority or a  
16 local public health administrator except as authorized by law or necessary to respond to a public  
17 health emergency.

18 (b) The authority of the Public Health Director to take administrative action, and the effec-  
19 tiveness of any action taken, under paragraph (a)(A), (B), (D), (E) and (F) of this subsection termi-  
20 nates upon the expiration of the proclaimed state of public health emergency, unless the actions are  
21 continued under other applicable law.

22 (3) Civil penalties under subsection (2) of this section shall be imposed in the manner provided  
23 in ORS 183.745. The Public Health Director must establish that the individual, institution or facility  
24 subject to the civil penalty had actual notice of the action taken that is the basis for the penalty.  
25 The maximum aggregate total for penalties that may be imposed against an individual, institution  
26 or facility under subsection (2) of this section is \$500 for each day of violation, regardless of the  
27 number of violations of subsection (2) of this section that occurred on each day of violation.

28 (4)(a) During a proclaimed state of public health emergency, the Public Health Director and lo-  
29 cal public health administrators shall be given immediate access to individually identifiable health  
30 information necessary to:

31 (A) Determine the causes of an illness related to the public health emergency;

32 (B) Identify persons at risk;

33 (C) Identify patterns of transmission;

34 (D) Provide treatment; and

35 (E) Take steps to control the disease.

36 (b) Individually identifiable health information accessed as provided by paragraph (a) of this  
37 subsection may not be used for conducting nonemergency epidemiologic research or to identify  
38 persons at risk for post-traumatic mental health problems, or for any other purpose except the pur-  
39 poses listed in paragraph (a) of this subsection.

40 (c) Individually identifiable health information obtained by the Public Health Director or local  
41 public health administrators under this subsection may not be disclosed without written authori-  
42 zation of the identified individual except:

43 (A) Directly to the individual who is the subject of the information or to the legal representative  
44 of that individual;

45 (B) To state, local or federal agencies authorized to receive such information by state or federal

1 law;

2 (C) To identify or to determine the cause or manner of death of a deceased individual; or

3 (D) Directly to a health care provider for the evaluation or treatment of a condition that is the  
4 subject of a proclamation of a state of public health emergency issued under ORS 433.441.

5 (d) Upon expiration of the state of public health emergency, the Public Health Director or local  
6 public health administrators may not use or disclose any individually identifiable health information  
7 that has been obtained under this section. If a state of emergency that is related to the state of  
8 public health emergency has been declared under ORS 401.165, the Public Health Director and local  
9 public health administrators may continue to use any individually identifiable information obtained  
10 as provided under this section until termination of the state of emergency.

11 (5) All civil penalties recovered under this section shall be paid into the State Treasury and  
12 credited to the General Fund and are available for general governmental expenses.

13 (6) The Public Health Director may request assistance in enforcing orders issued pursuant to  
14 this section from state or local law enforcement authorities. If so requested by the Public Health  
15 Director, state and local law enforcement authorities, to the extent resources are available, shall  
16 assist in enforcing orders issued pursuant to this section.

17 (7) If the Oregon Health Authority adopts temporary rules to implement the provisions of this  
18 section, the rules adopted are not subject to the provisions of ORS 183.335 (6)(a). The authority may  
19 amend temporary rules adopted pursuant to this subsection as often as necessary to respond to the  
20 public health emergency.

21 **SECTION 19.** ORS 676.150 is amended to read:

22 676.150. (1) As used in this section:

23 (a) "Board" means the:

24 (A) State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology;

25 (B) State Board of Chiropractic Examiners;

26 (C) State Board of Licensed Social Workers;

27 (D) Oregon Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists;

28 (E) Oregon Board of Dentistry;

29 (F) Board of Examiners of Licensed Dietitians;

30 (G) State Board of Massage Therapists;

31 (H) Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine;

32 (I) Oregon State Board of Nursing;

33 (J) Nursing Home Administrators Board;

34 (K) Oregon Board of Optometry;

35 (L) State Board of Pharmacy;

36 (M) Oregon Medical Board;

37 (N) Occupational Therapy Licensing Board;

38 (O) Physical Therapist Licensing Board;

39 (P) State Board of Psychologist Examiners;

40 (Q) Board of Radiologic Technology;

41 (R) State Board of Direct Entry Midwifery;

42 (S) State Board of Denture Technology;

43 (T) Respiratory Therapist **and Polysomnographic Technologist** Licensing Board;

44 (U) Department of Human Services, to the extent that the department certifies emergency med-  
45 ical technicians;

1 (V) Oregon State Veterinary Medical Examining Board; or

2 (W) State Mortuary and Cemetery Board.

3 (b) "Licensee" means a health professional licensed or certified by or registered with a board.

4 (c) "Prohibited conduct" means conduct by a licensee that:

5 (A) Constitutes a criminal act against a patient or client; or

6 (B) Constitutes a criminal act that creates a risk of harm to a patient or client.

7 (d) "Unprofessional conduct" means conduct unbecoming a licensee or detrimental to the best  
8 interests of the public, including conduct contrary to recognized standards of ethics of the licensee's  
9 profession or conduct that endangers the health, safety or welfare of a patient or client.

10 (2) Unless state or federal laws relating to confidentiality or the protection of health information  
11 prohibit disclosure, a licensee who has reasonable cause to believe that another licensee has en-  
12 gaged in prohibited or unprofessional conduct shall report the conduct to the board responsible for  
13 the licensee who is believed to have engaged in the conduct. The reporting licensee shall report the  
14 conduct without undue delay, but in no event later than 10 working days after the reporting licensee  
15 learns of the conduct.

16 (3) A licensee who is convicted of a misdemeanor or felony or who is arrested for a felony crime  
17 shall report the conviction or arrest to the licensee's board within 10 days after the conviction or  
18 arrest.

19 (4) The board responsible for a licensee who is reported to have engaged in prohibited or un-  
20 professional conduct shall investigate in accordance with the board's rules. If the board has rea-  
21 sonable cause to believe that the licensee has engaged in prohibited conduct, the board shall present  
22 the facts to an appropriate law enforcement agency without undue delay, but in no event later than  
23 10 working days after the board finds reasonable cause to believe that the licensee engaged in pro-  
24 hibited conduct.

25 (5) A licensee who fails to report prohibited or unprofessional conduct as required by subsection  
26 (2) of this section or the licensee's conviction or arrest as required by subsection (3) of this section  
27 is subject to discipline by the board responsible for the licensee.

28 (6) A licensee who fails to report prohibited conduct as required by subsection (2) of this section  
29 commits a Class A violation.

30 (7) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a report under subsection (2) or (3) of this sec-  
31 tion is confidential under ORS 676.175. A board may disclose a report as provided in ORS 676.177.

32 (8) Except as part of an application for a license or for renewal of a license and except as pro-  
33 vided in subsection (3) of this section, a board may not require a licensee to report the licensee's  
34 criminal conduct.

35 (9) The obligations imposed by this section are in addition to and not in lieu of other obligations  
36 to report unprofessional conduct as provided by statute.

37 (10) A licensee who reports to a board in good faith as required by subsection (2) of this section  
38 is immune from civil liability for making the report.

39 (11) A board and the members, employees and contractors of the board are immune from civil  
40 liability for actions taken in good faith as a result of a report received under subsection (2) or (3)  
41 of this section.

42 **SECTION 20.** ORS 676.606 is amended to read:

43 676.606. Pursuant to ORS 676.607, the Oregon Health Licensing Agency shall provide adminis-  
44 trative and regulatory oversight and centralized service for the following boards, advisory councils  
45 and programs:

- 1 (1) Board of Athletic Trainers, as provided in ORS 688.701 to 688.734;
- 2 (2) Board of Cosmetology, as provided in ORS 690.005 to 690.235;
- 3 (3) State Board of Denture Technology, as provided in ORS 680.500 to 680.565;
- 4 (4) State Board of Direct Entry Midwifery, as provided in ORS 687.405 to 687.495;
- 5 (5) Respiratory Therapist **and Polysomnographic Technologist** Licensing Board, as provided
- 6 in ORS 688.800 to 688.840;
- 7 (6) Environmental Health Registration Board, as provided in ORS chapter 700;
- 8 (7) Advisory Council for Electrologists and Permanent Color Technicians and Tattoo Artists, as
- 9 provided in ORS 690.350 to 690.430;
- 10 (8) Advisory Council on Hearing Aids, as provided in ORS 694.015 to 694.185;
- 11 (9) Body piercing technician registration program and body piercing facility licensing program,
- 12 as provided in ORS 690.500 to 690.570;
- 13 (10) Sex Offender Treatment Board, as provided in ORS 675.360 to 675.410; and
- 14 (11) Nursing Home Administrators Board, as provided in ORS 678.710 to 678.820.

15 **SECTION 21.** ORS 676.992 is amended to read:

16 676.992. (1) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, and in addition to any other  
 17 penalty or remedy provided by law, the Oregon Health Licensing Agency may impose a civil penalty  
 18 not to exceed \$5,000 for each violation of the following statutes and any rule adopted thereunder:

- 19 (a) ORS 688.701 to 688.734 (athletic training);
- 20 (b) ORS 690.500 to 690.570 (body piercing);
- 21 (c) ORS 690.005 to 690.235 (cosmetology);
- 22 (d) ORS 680.500 to 680.565 (denture technology);
- 23 (e) ORS 687.405 to 687.495 (direct entry midwifery);
- 24 (f) ORS 690.350 to 690.430 (electrology and permanent coloring or tattooing);
- 25 (g) ORS 694.015 to 694.185 (dealing in hearing aids);
- 26 (h) ORS 688.800 to 688.840 (respiratory therapy **and polysomnography**);
- 27 (i) ORS chapter 700 (environmental sanitation);
- 28 (j) ORS 676.617 (single facility licensure);
- 29 (k) ORS 675.360 to 675.410 (sex offender treatment);
- 30 (L) ORS 678.710 to 678.820 (nursing home administrators); and
- 31 (m) ORS 676.612 (prohibited acts).

32 (2) The agency may take any other disciplinary action that it finds proper, including but not  
 33 limited to assessment of costs of disciplinary proceedings, not to exceed \$5,000, for violation of any  
 34 statute listed in subsection (1) of this section or any rule adopted under any statute listed in sub-  
 35 section (1) of this section.

36 (3) Subsection (1) of this section does not limit the amount of the civil penalty resulting from a  
 37 violation of ORS 694.042.

38 (4) In imposing a civil penalty pursuant to this section, the agency shall consider the following  
 39 factors:

- 40 (a) The immediacy and extent to which the violation threatens the public health or safety;
- 41 (b) Any prior violations of statutes, rules or orders;
- 42 (c) The history of the person incurring a penalty in taking all feasible steps to correct any vio-  
 43 lation; and
- 44 (d) Any other aggravating or mitigating factors.
- 45 (5) Civil penalties under this section shall be imposed as provided in ORS 183.745.



1 (6) The moneys received by the agency from civil penalties under this section shall be paid into  
 2 the General Fund of the State Treasury and credited to the Oregon Health Licensing Agency Ac-  
 3 count established under ORS 676.625. Such moneys are continuously appropriated to the agency for  
 4 the administration and enforcement of the laws the agency is charged with administering and en-  
 5 forcing that govern the person against whom the penalty was imposed.

6 **SECTION 22.** ORS 746.600 is amended to read:

7 746.600. As used in ORS 746.600 to 746.690:

8 (1)(a) “Adverse underwriting decision” means any of the following actions with respect to in-  
 9 surance transactions involving insurance coverage that is individually underwritten:

10 (A) A declination of insurance coverage.

11 (B) A termination of insurance coverage.

12 (C) Failure of an insurance producer to apply for insurance coverage with a specific insurer that  
 13 the insurance producer represents and that is requested by an applicant.

14 (D) In the case of life or health insurance coverage, an offer to insure at higher than standard  
 15 rates.

16 (E) In the case of insurance coverage other than life or health insurance coverage:

17 (i) Placement by an insurer or insurance producer of a risk with a residual market mechanism,  
 18 an unauthorized insurer or an insurer that specializes in substandard risks.

19 (ii) The charging of a higher rate on the basis of information that differs from that which the  
 20 applicant or policyholder furnished.

21 (iii) An increase in any charge imposed by the insurer for any personal insurance in connection  
 22 with the underwriting of insurance. For purposes of this sub-subparagraph, the imposition of a ser-  
 23 vice fee is not a charge.

24 (b) “Adverse underwriting decision” does not mean any of the following actions, but the insurer  
 25 or insurance producer responsible for the occurrence of the action must nevertheless provide the  
 26 applicant or policyholder with the specific reason or reasons for the occurrence:

27 (A) The termination of an individual policy form on a class or statewide basis.

28 (B) A declination of insurance coverage solely because the coverage is not available on a class  
 29 or statewide basis.

30 (C) The rescission of a policy.

31 (2) “Affiliate of” a specified person or “person affiliated with” a specified person means a person  
 32 who directly, or indirectly, through one or more intermediaries, controls, or is controlled by, or is  
 33 under common control with, the person specified.

34 (3) “Applicant” means a person who seeks to contract for insurance coverage, other than a  
 35 person seeking group insurance coverage that is not individually underwritten.

36 (4) “Consumer” means an individual, or the personal representative of the individual, who seeks  
 37 to obtain, obtains or has obtained one or more insurance products or services from a licensee that  
 38 are to be used primarily for personal, family or household purposes, and about whom the licensee  
 39 has personal information.

40 (5) “Consumer report” means any written, oral or other communication of information bearing  
 41 on a natural person’s creditworthiness, credit standing, credit capacity, character, general reputa-  
 42 tion, personal characteristics or mode of living that is used or expected to be used in connection  
 43 with an insurance transaction.

44 (6) “Consumer reporting agency” means a person that, for monetary fees or dues, or on a co-  
 45 operative or nonprofit basis:

- 1 (a) Regularly engages, in whole or in part, in assembling or preparing consumer reports;
- 2 (b) Obtains information primarily from sources other than insurers; and
- 3 (c) Furnishes consumer reports to other persons.

4 (7) "Control" means, and the terms "controlled by" or "under common control with" refer to,  
5 the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the manage-  
6 ment and policies of a person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract other  
7 than a commercial contract for goods or nonmanagement services, or otherwise, unless the power  
8 of the person is the result of a corporate office held in, or an official position held with, the con-  
9 trolled person.

10 (8) "Covered entity" means:

- 11 (a) A health insurer;
- 12 (b) A health care provider that transmits any health information in electronic form to carry out  
13 financial or administrative activities in connection with a transaction covered by ORS 746.607 or  
14 by rules adopted under ORS 746.608; or
- 15 (c) A health care clearinghouse.

16 (9) "Credit history" means any written or other communication of any information by a con-  
17 sumer reporting agency that:

- 18 (a) Bears on a consumer's creditworthiness, credit standing or credit capacity; and
- 19 (b) Is used or expected to be used, or collected in whole or in part, as a factor in determining  
20 eligibility, premiums or rates for personal insurance.

21 (10) "Customer" means a consumer who has a continuing relationship with a licensee under  
22 which the licensee provides one or more insurance products or services to the consumer that are  
23 to be used primarily for personal, family or household purposes.

24 (11) "Declination of insurance coverage" or "decline coverage" means a denial, in whole or in  
25 part, by an insurer or insurance producer of an application for requested insurance coverage.

26 (12) "Health care" means care, services or supplies related to the health of an individual.

27 (13) "Health care operations" includes but is not limited to:

- 28 (a) Quality assessment, accreditation, auditing and improvement activities;
- 29 (b) Case management and care coordination;
- 30 (c) Reviewing the competence, qualifications or performance of health care providers or health  
31 insurers;
- 32 (d) Underwriting activities;
- 33 (e) Arranging for legal services;
- 34 (f) Business planning;
- 35 (g) Customer services;
- 36 (h) Resolving internal grievances;
- 37 (i) Creating de-identified information; and
- 38 (j) Fundraising.

39 (14) "Health care provider" includes but is not limited to:

40 (a) A psychologist, occupational therapist, regulated social worker, professional counselor or  
41 marriage and family therapist licensed or otherwise authorized to practice under ORS chapter 675  
42 or an employee of the psychologist, occupational therapist, regulated social worker, professional  
43 counselor or marriage and family therapist;

44 (b) A physician, podiatric physician and surgeon, physician assistant or acupuncturist licensed  
45 under ORS chapter 677 or an employee of the physician, podiatric physician and surgeon, physician

- 1 assistant or acupuncturist;
- 2 (c) A nurse or nursing home administrator licensed under ORS chapter 678 or an employee of  
3 the nurse or nursing home administrator;
- 4 (d) A dentist licensed under ORS chapter 679 or an employee of the dentist;
- 5 (e) A dental hygienist or denturist licensed under ORS chapter 680 or an employee of the dental  
6 hygienist or denturist;
- 7 (f) A speech-language pathologist or audiologist licensed under ORS chapter 681 or an employee  
8 of the speech-language pathologist or audiologist;
- 9 (g) An emergency medical technician certified under ORS chapter 682;
- 10 (h) An optometrist licensed under ORS chapter 683 or an employee of the optometrist;
- 11 (i) A chiropractic physician licensed under ORS chapter 684 or an employee of the chiropractic  
12 physician;
- 13 (j) A naturopathic physician licensed under ORS chapter 685 or an employee of the naturopathic  
14 physician;
- 15 (k) A massage therapist licensed under ORS 687.011 to 687.250 or an employee of the massage  
16 therapist;
- 17 (L) A direct entry midwife licensed under ORS 687.405 to 687.495 or an employee of the direct  
18 entry midwife;
- 19 (m) A physical therapist licensed under ORS 688.010 to 688.201 or an employee of the physical  
20 therapist;
- 21 (n) A medical imaging licensee under ORS 688.405 to 688.605 or an employee of the medical  
22 imaging licensee;
- 23 (o) A respiratory care practitioner licensed under ORS [688.800 to 688.840] **688.815** or an em-  
24 ployee of the respiratory care practitioner;
- 25 **(p) A polysomnographic technologist licensed under section 8 of this 2011 Act or an em-**  
26 **ployee of the polysomnographic technologist;**
- 27 [(p)] (q) A pharmacist licensed under ORS chapter 689 or an employee of the pharmacist;
- 28 [(q)] (r) A dietitian licensed under ORS 691.405 to 691.585 or an employee of the dietitian;
- 29 [(r)] (s) A funeral service practitioner licensed under ORS chapter 692 or an employee of the  
30 funeral service practitioner;
- 31 [(s)] (t) A health care facility as defined in ORS 442.015;
- 32 [(t)] (u) A home health agency as defined in ORS 443.005;
- 33 [(u)] (v) A hospice program as defined in ORS 443.850;
- 34 [(v)] (w) A clinical laboratory as defined in ORS 438.010;
- 35 [(w)] (x) A pharmacy as defined in ORS 689.005;
- 36 [(x)] (y) A diabetes self-management program as defined in ORS 743.694; and
- 37 [(y)] (z) Any other person or entity that furnishes, bills for or is paid for health care in the  
38 normal course of business.
- 39 (15) "Health information" means any oral or written information in any form or medium that:
- 40 (a) Is created or received by a covered entity, a public health authority, a life insurer, a school,  
41 a university or a health care provider that is not a covered entity; and
- 42 (b) Relates to:
- 43 (A) The past, present or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual;
- 44 (B) The provision of health care to an individual; or
- 45 (C) The past, present or future payment for the provision of health care to an individual.

- 1 (16) “Health insurer” means:
- 2 (a) An insurer who offers:
- 3 (A) A health benefit plan as defined in ORS 743.730;
- 4 (B) A short term health insurance policy, the duration of which does not exceed six months in-
- 5 cluding renewals;
- 6 (C) A student health insurance policy;
- 7 (D) A Medicare supplemental policy; or
- 8 (E) A dental only policy.
- 9 (b) The Oregon Medical Insurance Pool operated by the Oregon Medical Insurance Pool Board
- 10 under ORS 735.600 to 735.650.
- 11 (17) “Homeowner insurance” means insurance for residential property consisting of a combina-
- 12 tion of property insurance and casualty insurance that provides coverage for the risks of owning
- 13 or occupying a dwelling and that is not intended to cover an owner’s interest in rental property or
- 14 commercial exposures.
- 15 (18) “Individual” means a natural person who:
- 16 (a) In the case of life or health insurance, is a past, present or proposed principal insured or
- 17 certificate holder;
- 18 (b) In the case of other kinds of insurance, is a past, present or proposed named insured or
- 19 certificate holder;
- 20 (c) Is a past, present or proposed policyowner;
- 21 (d) Is a past or present applicant;
- 22 (e) Is a past or present claimant; or
- 23 (f) Derived, derives or is proposed to derive insurance coverage under an insurance policy or
- 24 certificate that is subject to ORS 746.600 to 746.690.
- 25 (19) “Individually identifiable health information” means any oral or written health information
- 26 that is:
- 27 (a) Created or received by a covered entity or a health care provider that is not a covered en-
- 28 tity; and
- 29 (b) Identifiable to an individual, including demographic information that identifies the individual,
- 30 or for which there is a reasonable basis to believe the information can be used to identify an indi-
- 31 vidual, and that relates to:
- 32 (A) The past, present or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual;
- 33 (B) The provision of health care to an individual; or
- 34 (C) The past, present or future payment for the provision of health care to an individual.
- 35 (20) “Institutional source” means a person or governmental entity that provides information
- 36 about an individual to an insurer, insurance producer or insurance-support organization, other than:
- 37 (a) An insurance producer;
- 38 (b) The individual who is the subject of the information; or
- 39 (c) A natural person acting in a personal capacity rather than in a business or professional ca-
- 40 pacity.
- 41 (21) “Insurance producer” or “producer” means a person licensed by the Director of the De-
- 42 partment of Consumer and Business Services as a resident or nonresident insurance producer.
- 43 (22) “Insurance score” means a number or rating that is derived from an algorithm, computer
- 44 application, model or other process that is based in whole or in part on credit history.
- 45 (23)(a) “Insurance-support organization” means a person who regularly engages, in whole or in

1 part, in assembling or collecting information about natural persons for the primary purpose of pro-  
2 viding the information to an insurer or insurance producer for insurance transactions, including:

3 (A) The furnishing of consumer reports to an insurer or insurance producer for use in con-  
4 nection with insurance transactions; and

5 (B) The collection of personal information from insurers, insurance producers or other  
6 insurance-support organizations for the purpose of detecting or preventing fraud, material misrep-  
7 resentation or material nondisclosure in connection with insurance underwriting or insurance claim  
8 activity.

9 (b) "Insurance-support organization" does not mean insurers, insurance producers, governmental  
10 institutions or health care providers.

11 (24) "Insurance transaction" means any transaction that involves insurance primarily for per-  
12 sonal, family or household needs rather than business or professional needs and that entails:

13 (a) The determination of an individual's eligibility for an insurance coverage, benefit or payment;  
14 or

15 (b) The servicing of an insurance application, policy or certificate.

16 (25) "Insurer" has the meaning given that term in ORS 731.106.

17 (26) "Investigative consumer report" means a consumer report, or portion of a consumer report,  
18 for which information about a natural person's character, general reputation, personal character-  
19 istics or mode of living is obtained through personal interviews with the person's neighbors, friends,  
20 associates, acquaintances or others who may have knowledge concerning such items of information.

21 (27) "Licensee" means an insurer, insurance producer or other person authorized or required to  
22 be authorized, or licensed or required to be licensed, pursuant to the Insurance Code.

23 (28) "Loss history report" means a report provided by, or a database maintained by, an  
24 insurance-support organization or consumer reporting agency that contains information regarding  
25 the claims history of the individual property that is the subject of the application for a homeowner  
26 insurance policy or the consumer applying for a homeowner insurance policy.

27 (29) "Nonaffiliated third party" means any person except:

28 (a) An affiliate of a licensee;

29 (b) A person that is employed jointly by a licensee and by a person that is not an affiliate of the  
30 licensee; and

31 (c) As designated by the director by rule.

32 (30) "Payment" includes but is not limited to:

33 (a) Efforts to obtain premiums or reimbursement;

34 (b) Determining eligibility or coverage;

35 (c) Billing activities;

36 (d) Claims management;

37 (e) Reviewing health care to determine medical necessity;

38 (f) Utilization review; and

39 (g) Disclosures to consumer reporting agencies.

40 (31)(a) "Personal financial information" means:

41 (A) Information that is identifiable with an individual, gathered in connection with an insurance  
42 transaction from which judgments can be made about the individual's character, habits, avocations,  
43 finances, occupations, general reputation, credit or any other personal characteristics; or

44 (B) An individual's name, address and policy number or similar form of access code for the  
45 individual's policy.

1 (b) "Personal financial information" does not mean information that a licensee has a reasonable  
 2 basis to believe is lawfully made available to the general public from federal, state or local gov-  
 3 ernment records, widely distributed media or disclosures to the public that are required by federal,  
 4 state or local law.

5 (32) "Personal information" means:

- 6 (a) Personal financial information;
- 7 (b) Individually identifiable health information; or
- 8 (c) Protected health information.

9 (33) "Personal insurance" means the following types of insurance products or services that are  
 10 to be used primarily for personal, family or household purposes:

- 11 (a) Private passenger automobile coverage;
- 12 (b) Homeowner, mobile homeowners, manufactured homeowners, condominium owners and  
 13 renters coverage;
- 14 (c) Personal dwelling property coverage;
- 15 (d) Personal liability and theft coverage, including excess personal liability and theft coverage;
- 16 and
- 17 (e) Personal inland marine coverage.

18 (34) "Personal representative" includes but is not limited to:

- 19 (a) A person appointed as a guardian under ORS 125.305, 419B.370, 419C.481 or 419C.555 with  
 20 authority to make medical and health care decisions;
- 21 (b) A person appointed as a health care representative under ORS 127.505 to 127.660 or 127.700  
 22 to 127.737 to make health care decisions or mental health treatment decisions;
- 23 (c) A person appointed as a personal representative under ORS chapter 113; and
- 24 (d) A person described in ORS 746.611.

25 (35) "Policyholder" means a person who:

- 26 (a) In the case of individual policies of life or health insurance, is a current policyowner;
- 27 (b) In the case of individual policies of other kinds of insurance, is currently a named insured;
- 28 or
- 29 (c) In the case of group policies of insurance under which coverage is individually underwritten,  
 30 is a current certificate holder.

31 (36) "Pretext interview" means an interview wherein the interviewer, in an attempt to obtain  
 32 personal information about a natural person, does one or more of the following:

- 33 (a) Pretends to be someone the interviewer is not.
- 34 (b) Pretends to represent a person the interviewer is not in fact representing.
- 35 (c) Misrepresents the true purpose of the interview.
- 36 (d) Refuses upon request to identify the interviewer.

37 (37) "Privileged information" means information that is identifiable with an individual and that:

- 38 (a) Relates to a claim for insurance benefits or a civil or criminal proceeding involving the in-  
 39 dividual; and
- 40 (b) Is collected in connection with or in reasonable anticipation of a claim for insurance benefits  
 41 or a civil or criminal proceeding involving the individual.

42 (38)(a) "Protected health information" means individually identifiable health information that is  
 43 transmitted or maintained in any form of electronic or other medium by a covered entity.

44 (b) "Protected health information" does not mean individually identifiable health information in:

- 45 (A) Education records covered by the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (20

1 U.S.C. 1232g);

2 (B) Records described at 20 U.S.C. 1232g(a)(4)(B)(iv); or

3 (C) Employment records held by a covered entity in its role as employer.

4 (39) “Residual market mechanism” means an association, organization or other entity involved  
 5 in the insuring of risks under ORS 735.005 to 735.145, 737.312 or other provisions of the Insurance  
 6 Code relating to insurance applicants who are unable to procure insurance through normal insur-  
 7 ance markets.

8 (40) “Termination of insurance coverage” or “termination of an insurance policy” means either  
 9 a cancellation or a nonrenewal of an insurance policy, in whole or in part, for any reason other than  
 10 the failure of a premium to be paid as required by the policy.

11 (41) “Treatment” includes but is not limited to:

12 (a) The provision, coordination or management of health care; and

13 (b) Consultations and referrals between health care providers.

14 **SECTION 23.** (1) **Sections 5, 6 and 8 of this 2011 Act and the amendments to ORS 192.519,**  
 15 **433.443, 676.150, 676.606, 676.992, 688.800, 688.805, 688.810, 688.815, 688.820, 688.825, 688.830,**  
 16 **688.834, 688.836, 688.838, 688.840 and 746.600 by sections 1 to 4 and 10 to 22 of this 2011 Act**  
 17 **become operative January 1, 2012.**

18 (2) **Sections 7 and 9 of this 2011 Act become operative January 1, 2013.**

19 **SECTION 24.** (1) **The amendments to ORS 688.820 by section 10 of this 2011 Act apply to**  
 20 **appointments to the Respiratory Therapist and Polysomnographic Technologist Licensing**  
 21 **Board made on or after January 1, 2012.**

22 (2) **A member serving on the Respiratory Therapist Licensing Board on December 31,**  
 23 **2011, continues to serve until the term of office for which the member was appointed ter-**  
 24 **minates by expiration of time, resignation from the board by the member or removal of the**  
 25 **member from office.**

26 **SECTION 25.** **The Oregon Health Licensing Agency and the Respiratory Therapist Li-**  
 27 **censing Board may take any action before the operative dates specified in section 23 of this**  
 28 **2011 Act that is necessary to enable the agency and the board to exercise, on and after the**  
 29 **operative dates specified in section 23 of this 2011 Act, all of the duties, functions and powers**  
 30 **conferred on the agency and the board by sections 5 to 9 of this 2011 Act and the amend-**  
 31 **ments to ORS 192.519, 433.443, 676.150, 676.606, 676.992, 688.800, 688.805, 688.810, 688.815,**  
 32 **688.820, 688.825, 688.830, 688.834, 688.836, 688.838, 688.840 and 746.600 by sections 1 to 4 and 10**  
 33 **to 22 of this 2011 Act.**

34 **SECTION 26.** **This 2011 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**  
 35 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2011 Act takes effect**  
 36 **on its passage.**

37