



# Oregon

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## Board of Nursing

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Before the  
Senate Committee on Health Care and Human Services

**SB 136-2**

The Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) wishes to submit testimony regarding the -2 amendments to Senate Bill 136. The Board's position on the bill is neutral; however, we do have concerns regarding two aspects of the amendments that we urge the committee to consider.

The purpose of SB 136 is to add prescriptive authority to the scope of practice for the Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA). The three advanced nursing categories currently licensed by the Oregon State Board of Nursing are: Nurse Practitioner (which includes nurse midwives), Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS), and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA). Nurse Practitioners and CNSs already have prescriptive authority.

The Board is glad to see that Section 2(2)(b)(B) of the amendments now includes a requirement for education in pharmacotherapeutics. However, to ensure consistent preparation to prescribe across all advanced nursing licensees, the Board suggests that this language mirror that which exists in 678.372(3)(b). This change would require CRNAs to receive "clinical education in patient management, including pharmacotherapeutics, that is comparable to the requirements for completion of a nurse practitioner program." This is the current standard used to issue prescriptive authority for Schedule II-V drugs for nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists.

An additional concern is Section 2(3) of the amendments, which inadvertently prevents the Board from issuing an emergency suspension in cases where prescriptive privilege has been abused. To ensure public safety, the Board strongly encourages that this section of the bill be amended similarly to existing language in 678.390(7).

The Board of Nursing would be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have, or to work with staff on additional amendments to the bill. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on the -2 amendments to Senate Bill 136.