

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Knopp, Kruse, Shields, Steiner Hayward, Monnes Anderson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/12, 2/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Grants authority to Public Health Director to authorize licensed pharmacists to administer vaccines to persons 3 years of age or older in a declared emergency or disease outbreak .

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Current pharmacists' authority
- Outbreak of measles or influenza and impact on unvaccinated children
- Governor's authority to declare an emergency
- Proposed amendment

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Governor and the Public Health Director may authorize licensed pharmacist to administer vaccines to persons 3 years of age or older in a declared public emergency.

BACKGROUND: Currently, pharmacists in Oregon can immunize children over the age of 11, and ages 10 and under, with a prescription. Under the drug administration rule, a pharmacist can administer a vaccination to a child of any age with the appropriate prescription and protocol. The Oregon Health Authority writes the immunization protocols for pharmacists and is approved by the Immunization Program Medical Director. The typical pharmacy-based immunization training only covers down to 3 years of age without additional training.

Proponents assert that in the event of an outbreak such as measles or influenza, unvaccinated children who are exposed to the virus should be vaccinated as quickly as possible. A natural disaster like an earthquake could mean injured children would need a tetanus shot right away. In the case of an official outbreak or emergency, SB 167-A authorizes pharmacies to assist in vaccinating the public to contain the outbreak or address an emergency.