

**REVENUE: No revenue impact**

**FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued**

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**Action:** Do Pass  
**Vote:** 5 - 0 - 0  
**Yeas:** Knopp, Kruse, Shields, Steiner Hayward, Monnes Anderson  
**Nays:** 0  
**Exc.:** 0  
**Prepared By:** Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator  
**Meeting Dates:** 4/22

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Modifies definitions relating to social work. Modifies composition of State Board of Licensed Social Workers. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Background on Senate Bill 177 (2009)
- Current board membership
- Clarification for non-clinical social work
- Clarification of civil penalty authority
- Protection for “social worker” title
- Process of social work regulatory reforms

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** The Board of Licensed Social Workers (BLSW) is statutorily responsible for the protection of the citizens of Oregon through the regulation of social workers. BLSW establishes policy, standards of practice and ethical conduct, standards for certification and licensure, including renewals, and monitoring continuing education requirements and disciplined licensees to safeguard the public. BLSW is comprised of seven members by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.

Senate Bill 177 (2009) permitted voluntary licensure for non-clinical practice at the Bachelor (RBSW) and Masters (LMSW) level, but did not provide definitions for practicing at that level.

House Bill 2082 adopts the national model language for all levels of social work practice, and permits service in at least one existing BLSW professional position for those licensed or certified as Licensed Master’s Social Worker (LMSW), Registered Baccalaureate Social Worker (RBSW) or Certified Social Work Associate (CSWA).