

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 7 - 0 - 2

Yeas: Harker, Kennemer, Keny-Guyer, Lively, Thompson, Weidner, Greenlick

Nays: 0

Exc.: Clem, Conger

Prepared By: Tyler Larson, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/8, 5/15

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes Oregon State Board of Nursing (BON) to allow certified registered nurse anesthetist to prescribe drugs. Authorizes BON to determine scope of allowance and assess fees as necessary. Allows BON to determine procedure and grounds for emergency license suspension. Establishes pharmacotherapeutics education requirements. Specifies certified registered nurse anesthetist may prescribe for no more than 10-day supply with no refills, and prescribe only for established client or patient.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- CRNA pharmacology training and qualifications
- Provisions of Senate amendments
- Expected rules limiting prescriptive authority to scope of practice
- 28 other states grant CRNAs prescriptive authority
- Results of Washington study of CRNA prescriptive practices

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) is an advanced practice registered nurse who has acquired graduate-level education and board certification in anesthesia. Currently, Oregon CRNAs are authorized to independently select, order and administer medications within the care setting. There is a wide variability in CRNA prescriptive authority. In 2005, Washington State passed a law allowing CRNAs to prescribe narcotics and saw a limited registration to utilize the authority. Supporters assert that granting prescriptive authority ensures that CRNAs in Oregon can practice at the top of their license and expand the continuum of care CRNAs can provide to patients.

Senate Bill 136-A authorizes the Oregon State Board of Nursing to allow CRNAs, upon meeting all requirements, to write prescriptions for established patients for no more than 10 days and with no refills.