

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carriers – House: Rep. Keny-Guyer
Rep. Parrish
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Monroe

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure as Amended and be Printed B-Engrossed

Vote: 25 – 0 – 1

House

Yeas: Barker, Buckley, Frederick, Freeman, Hanna, Huffman, Jensen, Komp, McLane, Nathanson, Read, Richardson, Smith, Tomei, Williamson

Nays:

Exc:

Senate

Yeas: Bates, Devlin, Edwards, Girod, Hansell, Johnson, Monroe, Steiner Hayward, Whitsett, Winters

Nays:

Exc: Thomsen

Prepared By: John Terpening, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: June 28, 2013

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Defines licensure requirements for direct entry midwifery (DEM). Requires State Board of Direct Entry Midwifery (SBDEM) adopt rules. Authorizes SBDEM investigate complaints and take disciplinary action including suspension or revocation of license and assessment of civil penalties. Removes “tocolytics” from list of drugs DEM may prescribe. Deletes references to Direct Entry Midwifery Account. Defines “direct entry midwifery” as participating in certain specified activities for compensation. Requires licensure by January 1, 2015. Allows licensing exemption for individual who does not use legend drugs or devices, does not advertise and discloses lack of licensure and other specified information to each client. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Fiscal impact of the measure
- Effect of proposed amendments

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Inserts language relating to supervision of student midwives, birth assistants, or others by a licensed midwife. Makes changes to the investigation and discipline process, and gives final order authority to the Board.

BACKGROUND: A licensed direct entry midwife (LDEM) supervises the conduct and labor of childbirth, advises the parent as to the progress of childbirth and renders prenatal, intrapartum and postpartum care. The Oregon Health Licensing Agency (OHLA) oversees regulation of direct entry midwifery. Currently, licensure for DEMs is voluntary, and unlicensed midwives may practice in Oregon.

House Bill 2997 requires licensure to practice midwifery and creates an exemption for traditional midwives who do not administer legend drugs, do not advertise as a midwife, and disclose lack of licensure to each client. The bill also grants the State Board of Direct Entry Midwifery (SBDEM) authority to conduct investigations and take disciplinary action against licensees.