

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: 2/4

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Authorizes certified nurse practitioners or certified clinical nurse specialists to dispense prescription drugs.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Current access restrictions
- Types of medications to be dispensed
- Nurse practitioner educational requirements for two-year master's level program
- Concerns relating to nurse practitioners dispensing narcotic drugs
- Impact on urban area dispensing
- Patient safety concerns

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

**BACKGROUND:** Currently, nurse practitioners (NPs) and clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) have certification and prescriptive authority through the Oregon State Board of Nursing (Oregon Revised Statute 678.390). NPs and CNSs are independent providers and prescribers in Oregon; a co-signature by a physician is not required for prescriptions. Additionally, NPs are authorized to distribute pre-packaged sample medications, regardless of the practice setting.

Senate Bill 8 extends prescription dispensing authority for NPs and CNSs.