## 77th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2014 Regular Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY House Committee on Health Care

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued		
Action:		Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:		9 - 0 - 0
	Yeas:	Clem, Conger, Harker, Kennemer, Keny-Guyer, Lively, Thompson, Weidner, Greenlick
	Nays:	0
	Exc.:	0
Prepared By:		Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator
Meeting Dates:		2/5

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Authorizes Board of Medical Imaging to waive specified licensing requirements for individual who meets certain criteria. Removes 10 year experience requirement and grants the Board discretion. Modifies definition of critical access to current rural hospital definition. Modifies current list of practitioners that can order medical imaging procedures. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Current imaging modality
- Minimum requirements for national exam
- Importance of imaging technologists in rural communities
- Board of Imaging ability to grant licenses
- Proposed amendments

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Deletes the 10 year experience requirement and allows broader discretion for the Board. Removes reference to "critical access" and replaces with the current rural hospital definition. Replaces current list of practitioners that can order a medical imaging procedure with broader language.

**BACKGROUND:** In 2009, the Legislative Assembly required that all technologists under the Board of Imaging to become nationally recognized; which is the highest standard of licensure. The statute went into effect January 2014. As a result, the licensure change will have a negative impact for the Nuclear Medicine Program at Grande Ronde Hospital and potentially other Critical Access Hospitals.

Currently all imagining modalities, including ultrasound, MRI, nuclear medicine, and CT, require a license in the State of Oregon. These licenses are in addition to a technologist's primary X-ray license. In order to apply for a state's license, a technology must satisfy one of the following (ORS 688.455):

- Holds a credential issued by a credentialing organization in a medical imaging modality recognized by the board;
- No later than December 31, 2010, passed the examination of the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists after being sponsored for the examination by the State of Oregon;
- Was initially licensed by the Board of Radiologic Technology before 1980 and held an active license from the Board of Medical Imaging on July 1, 2010; and
- Meets the requirements for licensing under ORS 688.495 (licensing of radiographer without examination).