77th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2014 Regular Session MEASURE: SB 1548

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee on Health Care and Human Services

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass **Vote:** 4 - 0 - 1

Yeas: Kruse, Shields, Steiner Hayward, Monnes Anderson

Nays: 0 Exc.: Knopp

Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Amends certain statutes referencing "physician" to include "physician assistant" and "nurse practitioner reference." Effective July 1, 2014.

CARRIER: Sen. Monnes Anderson

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The need to update Oregon Statutes
- Bill does not expand scope of practice or extend new privileges
- Provisions of the bill
- Minor changes required
- Proposed amendments in the House

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Oregon law allows physician assistants (PAs) to perform a medical service if their supervising physician approves it, unless PAs are specifically excluded. In several other places in state law the language is vague about which providers may perform certain medical functions, often referring only to "physicians" or "physicians and nurse practitioners." Without explicit mention or direct cross-reference to ORS 677.515, these individual statutes give the impression that PAs are not allowed to perform normal functions related to their profession.

The Oregon Society of Physician Assistants (OSPA) and Oregon Nurses Association (ONA) seek to clarify Oregon statutes regarding the types and settings of medical care where PAs and Nurse Practitioners are authorized to provide medical services.