

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

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Action: Do Pass with Amendments to the A-Engrossed Measure. (Printed B-Engrossed)

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Knopp, Kruse, Shields, Steiner Hayward, Monnes Anderson

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/17, 2/20

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Authorizes the Board of Medical Imaging to waive requirements for individual who has substantial experiences, as determined by the Board, and who is a medical imaging employee of a rural hospital. Specifies any health care practitioner may order or interpret medical imaging procedures if such procedures are within the practitioner's scope of authority as determined by the agency that licensed the licensee. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Current authority of the Board of Medical Imaging
- National examination requirements
- Importance of having imaging technologists in rural hospitals
- Concerns relating to ambiguity in current language
- Proposed amendments

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Provides clarification of the scope of authority language.

**BACKGROUND:** In 2009, the Legislative Assembly required that all technologists under the Board of Medical 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 rural hospitals. The national certification requires a minimum of 8,000 hours of clinical experience over a four year span and this can be difficult for technologists in rural hospitals because these hospitals do not have the necessary patient volumes to sustain or garner the required hours required.

Currently all imaging 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 technologist 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; or,
- Meets the requirements for licensing under ORS 688.495 (licensing of radiographer without examination).

2/21/2014 10:53:00 AM

*This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.*