



SB 280 -- RESTRUCTURED MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD OF MEDICAL IMAGING

WHAT THE BOARD OF MEDICAL IMAGING DOES

The Oregon Board of Medical Imaging oversees licensure and regulation of medical imaging technologists who practice radiography (x-ray), sonography, MRI, nuclear medicine, and radiation therapy. In addition, the OBMI issues permits to qualified limited x-ray permit holders.

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED – VACANCIES AMONG PHYSICIAN MEMBERS

Oregon Statutes (ORS 688.545) specify the membership of the Oregon Board of Medical Imaging (OBMI) to include four physicians, five imaging licensees and three public members. For most of the past three years, three of the four physician slots have been vacant, due to the scarcity of physician applicants to the Board. Multiple vacancies can make it difficult to muster a quorum while diminishing the Board’s capacity to analyze and resolve issues in a collective forum. Vacancies equate to reduced community input to Board deliberations, while concentrating decision-making authority among fewer individuals.

The Board has consistently advertised on the agency website and agency newsletter to fill the physician positions, and has reached out to the Oregon Medical Board and Oregon Medical Association in an unsuccessful effort to fill empty slots.

PROPOSED SOLUTION – GREATER FLEXIBILITY FOR THE GOVERNOR TO FILL BOARD SLOTS

SB 280 restructures the OBMI membership to give the Governor’s office the ability to fill the three current vacant physician slots with physicians, imaging licensees, or public members. In addition, SB 280 allows the Governor to fill one or several of these slots with a limited x-ray permit holder – currently unrepresented on the Board.

Board Membership	Current	SB 280
Physicians	4 (at least one radiologist)	1 (<i>must</i> be a radiologist)
Licensees	5 – one from each of the licensure modalities	5 – one from each of the licensure modalities
Public members	3	3
Any combination of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physician (MD; DO; podiatrist; chiropractor) • OBMI licensee • public member • limited x-ray permit holder 	0	3
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	12	12

SUPPORT: The OBMI has publicized this proposal in agency newsletters and through the website and has received no comments and no opposition. The OBMI has informed and updated the Oregon Medical Association, Oregon Medical Board and Oregon Society of Radiologic Technologists.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

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