

Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2015 Regular Session
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
Senate Committee On Health Care

MEASURE: SB 283
CARRIER: Sen. Monnes Anderson

Fiscal: No Fiscal Impact
Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 02/11/15

Action: Do Pass.

Meeting Dates: 02/11

Senate

Yeas: 4 - Knopp, Kruse, Steiner Hayward, Monnes Anderson

Nays: 1 - Shields

Prepared By: Zena Rockowitz, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prohibits use of title “Advanced Practice Registered Nurse” (APRN) unless the individual is a nurse specialist, nurse practitioner, or a certified registered nurse anesthetist.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Nothing to prohibit use of the title “APRN”
- “APRN” is not a licensure type in Oregon, but is a licensure type in the majority of states
- For medical professionals, “APRN” may be less clear than the use of specific titles to convey expertise
- “APRN” title may limit confusion among patients because it conveys that the person providing care has more skills and knowledge

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon State Board of Nursing recognizes three types of advanced practice nurses: Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Nurse Specialist, and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist. Thirty-three states, three territories, and the District of Columbia have predesignated nurses in this category with an “Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner” (APRN) title. Requirements in Oregon include the following:

- Nurse Practitioners must graduate from a Master’s or Doctoral degree in a nursing program, hold a national certification in a specialty, and have at least 384 hours of registered nurse practice.
- Certified Nurse Specialists must have graduated from a Master’s or Doctoral degree nursing program, and practiced at least 960 hours.
- Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists must have graduated from a nurse anesthetic program, hold a national certificate from the American Association of Nurse Anesthetics, and graduated in last two years.

There is nothing in law to specify that use of the title “ARPN” is prohibited without license and degree, and therefore anyone can advertise, provide services, and use the title.

