

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**CARRIER:**

Senate Committee on Senate Health Care

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, statement not yet issued**FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued****Action:****Vote:****Yeas:****Nays:****Exc.:****Prepared By:** Zena Rockowitz, Administrator**Meeting Dates:** 2/25, 3/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Alters Board of Pharmacy (Board) membership to add one licensed pharmacy technician and remove one member of the public. Requires licensed pharmacy technician to be in good standing, engaged in duties, and have three years of experience. Directs Governor to appoint pharmacy technician at the expiration of the term of member of the public. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Pharmacy technicians want voice at the table
- Balance of pharmacy technicians to pharmacists
- Ability of Board members to understand professional obligations and standards
- Time Board devotes to pharmacy technician issues

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: -1 Amendment Adds two members to Board of Pharmacy (Board). Requires two members of the Board to be licensed pharmacy technicians. Directs Governor to appoint pharmacy technicians for terms beginning on January 1, 2016. **-4 Amendment** Adds two more Board members to create 9-member Board. Specifies addition of one licensed physician and one member of the public. Directs Governor to appoint technician and pharmacist for terms beginning on January 1, 2016.

BACKGROUND: The Board of Pharmacy (Board) aims to ensure public health and safety to Oregonians by creating standards in the practice of pharmacy and by regulating the quality, manufacture, sale and distribution of drugs. Five members of the Board are licensed pharmacists and two members are from the public. The Board regulates licensure and practice of Certified Oregon Pharmacy Technicians and Pharmacy Technicians. To obtain Certified Oregon Pharmacy Technician licensure, a person must be at least 18 years of age with a GED or high school diploma and must have passed a national certification exam.

Pharmacists are responsible for the work of pharmacy technicians and oversee or verify their work. Some of the tasks of pharmacy technicians are recording non-prescription, patient, and medication information into a computer record system, prepackaging and relabeling packages of medication, initiating or accepting electronic refill information, packing, pouring, or placing drugs and chemicals in a container for selling or dispensing, reconstituting prescription medications, bulk compounding (combining ingredients), and preparing parenteral products (injections or infusions).

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