

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Senate Health Care

REVENUE: No revenue impact (introduced)**FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact****Action:****Vote:****Yeas:****Nays:****Exc.:****Prepared By:** Zena Rockowitz, Administrator**Meeting Dates:** 4/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Adds physician assistant to the Oregon Medical Board. Allows physician assistant to be selected by Governor from a list of three to five candidates submitted by the Oregon Society of Physician Assistants.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Physician assistants do not have representation on the board which regulates them
- Physician assistants practice collaboratively with physicians and are primary care providers
- Dissolution of Physician Assistant Committee

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: -1 Amendment: Permits physician assistant to be retired. Appoints candidates for that year term expires. Staggers terms by three years. Repeals Physician Assistant Committee.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon Medical Board membership consists of seven Doctors of Medicine, two Doctors of Osteopathy, one Doctor of Podiatric Medicine and two members of the public representing health consumers. The Physician Assistants (PA) profession is licensed and regulated by the Oregon Medical Board. PAs are trained medical professionals who, under the supervision of licensed physicians, provide patient-centered medical care services on a health care team. PAs play a large role in primary care delivery and take medical histories, perform physical examinations, diagnose illness, order and interpret diagnostic test, develop treatment and management plans, set fractures, assist in surgeries, and provide education to patients. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the PA profession is growing, resulting in an expected increase of jobs by 38 percent between 2012 and 2022.