



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Oregon Board of Medical Imaging

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SB 280-A

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 Statute (ORS 688.545) specifies 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 four 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 effort to fill empty slots.

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

Under SB 280, one board slot would always need to be a physician – specifically a radiologist. However, if physician applicants are not available to fill any of the other three physician slots, then SB 280 would allow the Governor to fill those slots with any combination of the following: 1) imaging licensee; 2) chiropractor with radiology training; 3) public member; or 4) limited x-ray permit holder.

| Board Membership | Current Law | SB 280 |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| Mandatory physician slots | 4 – (w/ at least 1 radiologist) | 1 – (<i>must</i> be a radiologist) |
| Conditional physician slots | 0 -- Under current law, if no physician applicants are available, those board slots remain vacant. | 3 - <i>Only if physician applicants are not available</i> , the Governor may fill up to three vacancies with any combination of: a) Licensee b) Chiropractor c) Public Member d) Limited X-Ray Permit Holder |
| Licensees | 5 – one from each of the licensure modalities | 5 – one from each of the licensure modalities |
| Public members | 3 | 3 |
| TOTAL | 12 | 12 |

CLARIFY THAT LICENSEE MEMBERS MUST BE “ACTIVELY ENGAGED” IN MEDICAL IMAGING: SB 280 specifies that a licensee member of the Board does not necessarily need to be *practicing* imaging on a day-to-day basis, as current law requires, but must be *actively engaged* in medical imaging, which could mean not just practicing but also supervising or administering a medical imaging department or educational program, or could include a medical imaging retiree who has been retired for up to five years, with an active licensure.

OPPOSITION: None Known.

FISCAL IMPACT: Minimal.

PASSED SENATE: 29-1.

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