

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Senate Health Care

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Zena Rockowitz, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows naturopathic physician to apply for credentialing by an insurer as a primary care provider and to meet specific insurer requirements.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Oregon has a shortage of primary care providers (PCPs). The Oregon Health Policy Board’s Healthcare Workforce Committee’s 5-Year Strategic Plan for PCP recruitment in Oregon recommends the following: “Increase access to primary care provided by Naturopathic Doctors (NDs) by removing coverage and credentialing barriers. In some locations, NDs are an underutilized and immediately available primary care workforce.” House Bill 3301-A allows NDs who meet the insurers credentialing and contracting agreement, the option to practice as a primary care provider.