

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

MEASURE: SB 230 A
CARRIER: Sen. Kruse

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued
Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 02/11/15
Action: Do Pass With Amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)
Meeting Dates: 02/04, 02/11
Senate
Yeas: 4 - Knopp, Kruse, Shields, Monnes Anderson
Exc: 1 - Steiner Hayward

Prepared By: Zena Rockowitz, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Expands the Healthcare Workforce Regulatory Board (Board) from seven to ten health care professional licensing boards. Specifies that an individual renewing a license with the Board must provide information prescribed by Oregon Health Authority (OHA) versus Office for Oregon Health Policy and Research. Requires OHA to collaborate with each Board to adopt rules on demographics and other information. Clarifies when Board may release personally identifiable information to OHA. Requires health care professional licensing boards to submit information when applying for licensure renewal. Requires OHA to use collected information in a health care workforce database. Establishes that database will include data on state health care workforce diversity and that OHA can contract with private entity to maintain and analyze data. Requires submission of information only when renewing license. Adds training to the list of information submitted. Sets enactment date for professions that already submit information upon renewal. Sets enactment date for professions that do not submit information upon renewal. Establishes date when rules are to be adopted by Board. Permits OHA to take action prior to the operative date. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Use of reliable health care data to analyze workforce planning
- Small fee from licensees to support data collection
- Shortages of health care workers
- Consideration of implementation, type of boards included, and content of questions

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Removes the Nursing Home Administrators Board from the Healthcare Workforce Regulatory Board and adds Respiratory Therapist and Polysomnography Technologist Licensing Board.

BACKGROUND:

Currently, ORS 676.410 requires certain Health Care Worker Regulatory Boards to submit information on health care workers who apply or renew a license along with a designated fee. Applicants submit information to the Office for Oregon Health Policy Research (OOHPR) on demographics, education, license, employment, primary and secondary practice, anticipated changes in practice, and languages spoken. OOHPR has maintained a database of this information since 2009, and the data has been used for monitoring, projecting future demand, and assessing diversity. The following seven boards are required to submit information: occupational therapy, medical, nursing, dentistry, physical therapy, pharmacy, and dieticians. The following three boards voluntarily submit information: psychologists, social workers, and professional counselors and therapists. The Oregon Health

Authority reports a low response rate from the Boards that voluntarily submit information. Several boards do not submit any information, (e.g., chiropractic, massage therapy, optometry, and medical imaging). There are over 35,000 licensed health care professionals who submit no information to the database.