

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**Measure: SB 153**Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2015 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office***Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official***

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Measure Description:

Clarifies definition of "independent practice" for purpose of insurance reimbursement for services provided by licensed physician assistant or certified nurse practitioner.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS)

Local Government Mandate:

This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

Analysis:

Senate Bill 153 modifies the definition of "independent practice" as it pertains to insurance reimbursement of primary care mental health services for physician assistants and certified nurse practitioners. The bill clarifies that an independent practice that qualifies for reimbursement subject to pay parity includes services that are provided by nurse practitioners and physician assistants billed using applicable diagnostic and reporting codes under: (1) the providers' own name, (2) the provider's national provider identifier (NPI); or (3) the facility NPI.

Oregon Health Authority (OHA)

The Oregon Educators Benefit Board (OEBB) reports that passage of the bill may increase premium costs. With the passage of HB 2902 (2013), Moda, OEBB's largest insurer, reimbursed physician assistants and certified nurse practitioners at the pay parity rate only if providers billed under their own NPIs, but not if they bill under facility NPIs. With passage of SB 153, Moda will have to reimburse eligible providers billing under facility NPIs. Based on the claims experience of these eligible providers who billed under facility NPIs, Moda projects a 0.27% premium cost increase, impacting 42,478 employees, projects a possible \$1,973,305 increase in Other Funds for the 2015-17 biennium.

Note that any proposed legislation resulting in a fiscal impact on insurance premiums provided by OEBB will impact any educational entity that has mandated or elective coverage under OEBB. This includes school districts, community colleges, education service districts and some charter schools.

According to the Public Employees Benefit Board (PEBB), passage of this bill will not have a fiscal impact on the Board. PEBB plans currently cover physician assistants and certified nurse practitioners billing under both their own and facility NPIs.

Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS)

Passage of this bill is anticipated to have minimal impact on the Department of Consumer and Business Services. DCBS will use existing staff and resources to review and approve plans.