

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**Senate Committee On Health Care**

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued
Revenue: Revenue impact issued

Action Date: 03/02/15

Action: Do Pass With Amendments, Be Printed A-Engrossed, Subsequent Referral To Finance And Revenue Be Rescinded And Requesting Referral To Ways And Means.

Meeting Dates: 02/16, 03/02

Vote:
 Yeas: 5 - Knopp, Kruse, Monnes Anderson, Shields, Steiner Hayward

Prepared By: Zena Rockowitz, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Oregon State Board of Nursing to impose an additional \$9 for examination and license renewal fees charged for a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse. Creates Oregon Nursing Advancement Fund to credit additional fees imposed. Remits funds once per year to an Oregon nonprofit organization that works to advance the profession of nursing, conducts research studies on nursing workforce, distributes information free of charge about nursing workforce, and convenes nursing organizations to address issues and recommendations identified.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Shortage of nurses and nurse educators
- Data helps determine nurse curriculum and where nurses practice
- Data helps justify investment in programs
- Data provides solutions to nurse staffing issues

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Clarifies that the moneys in the Oregon Nursing Advancement Fund are continuously appropriated to the Oregon State Board of Nursing.

BACKGROUND:

Nationally, the supply and demand for nurses is evolving due to factors such as caring for the aging population, increasing access to health care services, population growth and aging of the nurse workforce. In 2007, the Oregon Legislative Assembly created Senate Bill 4, which declared a nursing workforce and faculty shortage. The federal Health Resources Services Administration projects that by 2025 Oregon will have a shortage of 6,000 registered nurses and 390 licensed practical nurses. The Office for Oregon Health Policy and Research found that between 2013 and 2020 the demand for nurse practitioners will increase between 11 to 31 percent depending on Oregon's Medicaid growth, new technologies and emphasis on team-based care.

The Oregon Center for Nursing is a nonprofit organization established in 2002, which collects data and analysis on nurses, collaborates with organizations to address nursing needs, provides education, aims to retain and attract nurses to the profession, and advocates on behalf of nurses.

In 2014, the Board of Nursing renewed licenses for 26,300 registered and licensed practical nurses, and issued 1,936 new registered nurse and licensed practical nurse licenses by examination, for a total of 28,236 licenses.