

House Committee On Health Care

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 03/18/15

Action: Do Pass As Amended And Be Printed Engrossed.

Meeting Dates: 02/11, 03/18

Vote:

Yeas: 6 - Buehler, Clem, Greenlick, Kennemer, Lively, Nosse

Nays: 3 - Hayden, Keny-Guyer, Weidner

Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires a physician, physician assistant or individual licensed to practice nursing, to be present at blood drives. Requires a qualified person to be present during the donor intake and screening process, but does not require the professional to conduct the intake. Specifies that if a qualified person is unable to attend the blood drive and 48-hour notice is given, the donor site must make a reasonable attempt to replace the individual. Requires the donor site to keep a record of the qualified individual schedule.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Blood drives and adverse events
- Cost of blood products
- Blood collection environment is changing
- Added restrictions unnecessary
- Patient and blood product safety
- Concerns relating to increasing operational costs
- Concerns associated with the negative impacts on blood drives and blood supply
- Proposed amendments
- Data concerns

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Requires a registered nurse or other licensed professional be present during the donor intake and screening process, but does not require the professional to conduct the intake. Specifies that if a qualified professional is unable to attend the blood drive and 48-hour notice is given, the donor site must make a reasonable attempt to replace the individual. Requires the donor site to keep a record of the qualified individual schedule.

BACKGROUND:

Blood donation is a process where a person voluntarily has blood drawn, which is then used for transfusions. Most blood donors are unpaid and donate blood for the community supply. Donors are evaluated and must answer questions on the status of their health, medical history and regarding conditions that might be transmitted by a blood transfusion (e.g., HIV, Hepatitis, certain drugs, etc.).

It has been reported that blood donation companies are moving away from using licensed health care professionals on blood drives in Oregon. There is concern that, on rare occasions, blood donors have experienced serious medical problems and that without appropriate medical professionals on site, patient safety could be jeopardized.