

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 04/17/15

Action: Do Pass As Amended And Be Printed Engrossed.

Meeting Dates: 03/23, 04/17

Vote:

Yeas: 6 - Greenlick, Kennemer, Keny-Guyer, Lively, Nosse, Weidner

Nays: 2 - Buehler, Hayden

Exc: 1 - Clem

Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Committee Administrator

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:

- Education and training requirements to become a naturopathic physician
- Shortage of primary care providers
- Patient choice
- Non-discrimination laws
- NDs more than specialist
- Proposed amendment

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Allows naturopathic physician to apply for credentialing and to meet specific insurer requirements. Deletes the primary care provider language. Deletes the “specialist” reference.

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.