

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

**MEASURE:** SB 153 A  
**CARRIER:** Rep. Lively

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact

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**Action Date:** 05/13/15

**Action:** Do Pass As Amended And Be Printed Engrossed.

**Meeting Dates:** 05/06, 05/13

**Vote:**

Yeas: 8 - Buehler, Clem, Greenlick, Hayden, Kennemer, Lively, Nosse, Weidner

Exc: 1 - Keny-Guyer

**Prepared By:** Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Committee Administrator

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Clarifies insurance reimbursement of primary care or mental health services by physician assistants and certified nurse practitioners in independent practice. Requires use of national provider identifier of the physician assistant, nurse practitioner or facility in which physician assistant or nurse practitioner provides services.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Primary and Mental Health Care Reimbursement Task Force (HB 2902, 2013) Report
- Provider's National Provider Identifier (NPI) versus facility NPI
- Clarification of independent practice definition
- Role of Oregon Insurance Division

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

Provides additional reimbursement criteria for nurse practitioners and physician assistants.

**BACKGROUND:**

A certified Nurse Practitioner (NP) is an advanced practice nurse who has completed graduate level education. A Physician Assistant (PA) is a healthcare professional trained to practice medicine as part of a team with a physician. Both NPs and PAs conduct physical exams, diagnose and treat illness, order and interpret tests, prescribe medications and counsel on preventive health care. The Joint Interim Task Force on Primary and Mental Health Care Reimbursement found that in 2009, a number of health insurance carriers cut reimbursement for non-physician providers, particularly in mental health and primary care. In 2013, House Bill 2902 was passed to ensure that insurance reimbursement rates for primary and mental health care services provided by NPs and PAs in independent practice (seeing their own patients) was equal to that of physicians providing the same services under the same policy.