

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 05/13/15

Action: Do Pass As Amended And Be Printed Engrossed.

Meeting Dates: 04/29, 05/13

Vote:

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

Exc: 1 - Keny-Guyer

Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Specifies and requires healthcare workers to submit demographic, education and other information to the healthcare workforce regulatory boards. Specifies that an individual submit the information when renewing a license with the board. Transfers the maintaining of the information from the Oregon Office for Health Policy and Research to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). Directs OHA to collaborate with each board to adopt rules on demographics and other information. Clarifies when board may release personally identifiable information to OHA. Requires OHA to use collected information from the healthcare workforce database. Establishes that database includes data on state healthcare workforce diversity, and that OHA can contract with private entity to maintain and analyze data. Adds training to the list of information to be submitted. Removes the agency's exemption status from public contracting code. Sets January 1, 2016 as operative date. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Importance of having all healthcare regulatory boards participate
- Need for comprehensive data to understand current and future workforce needs
- Current data collection and survey process

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Removes the agency's exemption status from public contracting code.

BACKGROUND:

Currently, ORS 676.410 requires certain Healthcare Worker Regulatory Boards to submit information on healthcare workers who apply or renew a license along with a designated fee. Applicants submit information to the Oregon Office for Health Policy Research (OOHPR) on demographics, education, license, employment, primary and secondary practice, anticipated changes in practice and languages spoken. Since 2009, OOHPR has maintained this information, and the data is used for monitoring, projecting future demand and assessing diversity. The following seven boards are required to submit information: occupational therapy, medical, nursing, dentistry, physical therapy, pharmacy, and dieticians. The following three boards voluntarily submit information: psychologists, social workers, and professional counselors and therapists. The Oregon Health Authority reports a low response rate from the Boards that voluntarily submit information. Several boards do not submit any information, (e.g., chiropractic, massage therapy, optometry and medical imaging). There are over 35,000 licensed healthcare professionals who submit no information to the database.