



SB 1585

Sections 1 and 2 Summary

Sections 1 and 2 of SB 1585 (2016) amend legislation passed in 2015 that was supported by a broad coalition of the nursing community, including ONA. SB 72 (2015) established the Oregon Nursing Advancement Fund to help fund the Oregon Center for Nursing's research and analysis of Oregon's nursing workforce. The Oregon Center for Nursing is a nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring legislators, employers, policy makers, educators and health care providers have independently reviewed nursing workforce information to help make the most informed policy decisions. The bill instructs the Oregon State Board of Nursing to collect a \$9 surcharge from all nurses receiving a new license, and for nurses renewing their license, and the bill indicates funds be distributed once per year to a nonprofit organization.

SB 1585 clarifies the intent of SB 72 in three areas: (1) requests the \$9 surcharge be applied to nurses who are licensed by indorsement as well as nurses who are licensed by examination and nurses licensed by renewal; (2) gives more flexibility to the State Board of Nursing to remit payment quarterly instead of annually; and (3) clarifies that the nonprofit organization must be meet the requirements described in the IRS code 501(c)3 and ORS Section 65 to qualify for distribution.

Sections 3 and 4 Summary

Sections 3 and 4 of SB 1585 (2016) amend a legislation passed in 2013 that was supported by OHCA and Department of Human Services. HB 2216 (2013) established the Quality and Efficiency Incentive program to reduce bed capacity in nursing facilities across Oregon and make the long-term care system more cost efficient. According to the law, with DHS as the mediator, if nursing facilities in service areas with high vacancy rates voluntarily worked together to buy and close nursing facilities by December 31, 2015, the buyer would receive incentive pay from the state in their reimbursement rates. For these deals to go through, DHS would need to approve the sale of one facility to another (and make sure that the sale meets a handful of requirements that are laid out in rule.)

SB 1585 changes two things – It makes it so that the buy-and-close deals don't have to be *completed* by the deadline, they just have to have been submitted to DHS for approval by that time. It also pushes the deadline back to June 30, 2016.