

Board of Nursing

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Before the House Committee on Health Care

SB 269

The Oregon State Board of Nursing wishes to submit testimony regarding Senate Bill 269. The purpose of the bill is to provide a licensure exemption for nurses who are licensed in another state and are assigned caregiving duties for medically-fragile students travelling to Oregon.

In June 2016, stakeholders presented to the Board of Nursing their concern regarding out-of-state students travelling into Oregon as part of a school event. ORS 678.021 requires that all nurses must be licensed by the Board to practice nursing in Oregon. As the law stands, nurses who are caregivers for students in another state would have to be licensed also in Oregon before they could accompany their students into Oregon for school fieldtrips. Otherwise, the students with medical conditions would not be able to take part in the school event. The stakeholders felt it was an unnecessary burden to put on the school nurses, considering the brief time they would be spending in the state with their students.

SB 269 would amend ORS 678.031 to add an exemption for out-of-state nurses to accompany their students into Oregon during school-sponsored events. Other exemptions currently exist regarding nurses who are a part of a temporary transport team or disaster team, or are in the state only to present an educational program. The exemption presented in SB 269 is comparable to these current exemptions and would not put Oregonians at risk.

We anticipate there will be no fiscal impact as a result of this bill, and the Board would be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding SB 269.