

HB 2103 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 5/18, 5/30

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows licensed nurse practitioners to perform vasectomies.

FISCAL: No fiscal impact.

REVENUE: No revenue impact.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

A Nurse Practitioner (NP) is a registered nurse with advanced training in diagnosing and treating illnesses; they are generally authorized to prescribe medications, treat illnesses and administer physical exams. Nurse Practitioners provide primary care, some acute care, and are qualified to meet many patients' health-care needs. Research indicates NPs increase access to services, provide quality provider-client interaction and focus on health education and prevention. Currently, Oregon law allows NPs to perform procedures such as bone marrow aspiration, chest tube placement and lumbar puncture with the appropriate training, competency, credentialing and privileging.

Vasectomy is a medical procedure that makes a male individual sterile and serves as a form of permanent birth control. The procedure is often done in an outpatient setting with local anesthesia by a urologist or family physician (MD). Several states including Washington and Alaska allow NPs to perform vasectomies.

House Bill 2103 allows nurse practitioners to perform vasectomies in Oregon.