



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Board of Nursing

17938 SW Upper Boones Ferry Rd

Portland, OR 97224-7012

(971) 673-0685

Fax: (971) 673-0684

Oregon.BN.INFO@state.or.us

www.oregon.gov/OSBN

February 2, 2017

Before the
Senate Committee on Health Care

Senate Bill 69

The Oregon State Board of Nursing wishes to submit testimony regarding Senate Bill 69. The purpose of the bill is to bring current outdated law into alignment with modern nurse license exam methods and broaden the types of practitioners that may be consulted by the Board to better reflect current nursing situations and practice.

The existing language in several sections of ORS 678.150 was written before there was a national nurse licensure exam and before the advent of nursing assistants. Specifically, 678.150(6)(f), refers to Oregon administering license examinations at the request of other states. This practice was discontinued when the computerized national exam was adopted several decades ago.

In addition, 678.150(6)(i) contains outdated limits regarding the types of healthcare practitioners who must be consulted by the Board during rulemaking regarding the administration of noninjectable medication by nursing assistants. Current language specifies only three types of practitioners: physicians, gerontologists, and pharmacologists. Broader language would give the Board more flexibility to involve additional stakeholders and better represent modern health care practice.

We anticipate there will be no fiscal impact as a result of this bill, and we have received support from various stakeholders. There is no known opposition.

The Board would be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding SB 69.