

SB 71 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Power, functions, and duties of the Oregon State Board of Nursing are outlined in ORS 678.150. Measure clarifies existing Oregon law that allows for nursing assistants to administer medications in long term care facilities when supervised by a registered nurse.

REVENUE: No revenue impact.

FISCAL: No fiscal impact.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon State Board of Nursing regulates the nursing profession in Oregon including: determining licensure and certification requirements, evaluates and approves nursing education programs and nursing assistant training programs, issues licenses and renewals, investigates complaints and conducts investigations and other responsibilities outlined in ORS 678.150.

Nursing professionals dispense and deliver medications to patients in a variety of health care settings. Oregon law (678.445) permits the delegation of administering non-injectable medication to a nursing assistant by a registered nurse in a long term care facility. Registered nurses are responsible for ongoing supervision and reporting of any patient safety issues relating to medication administration by nursing assistants. The measure provides the Oregon State Board of Nursing authority to develop standards that allow for nursing assistants to administer medications in long term care facilities, when supervised by a registered nurse.