

SB 423 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Steiner Hayward

Senate Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 03/23/17

Action: Do pass.

Vote: 4-0-1-0

Yeas: 4 - Beyer, Kruse, Monnes Anderson, Steiner Hayward

Exc: 1 - Knopp

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Permits physician assistants to dispense schedules III and IV drugs under federal Controlled Substances Act. Takes effect January 1, 2018.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Federal and state regulatory guidelines for dispensing controlled substances; geographic differences in Oregon
- Over prescription of opioid drugs
- Zoom+Care physicians, physician assistants (PAs) and use of Oregon's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The federal Controlled Substances Act places all drugs into five schedules based on medical use, the potential for abuse, safety or dependence liability. Schedule III drugs have moderate to low potential for physical and psychological dependence (e.g., anabolic steroids, testosterone, Sudafed, and Tylenol with codeine). Schedule IV drugs have a low potential for abuse and low risk of dependence (e.g., Ambien, Tramadol and Xanax). Oregon's current law prohibits PAs from dispensing drugs in schedules I through IV unless drugs are administered to groups that are federally designated as underserved or disadvantaged. The Oregon Medical Board establishes standards and qualifications for PAs with dispensing authority.

Senate Bill 423 allows PAs to prescribe and administer schedules III and IV drugs under the federal Controlled Substances Act.