

**HB 3014 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Rep. Kennemer

**House Committee On Health Care**

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**Action Date:** 04/17/17

**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

**Vote:** 9-0-0-0

**Yeas:** 9 - Alonso Leon, Buehler, Greenlick, Hack, Hayden, Kennemer, Keny-Guyer, Malstrom, Nosse

**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Requires applicants for initial license to practice respiratory therapy and for license by reciprocity to practice respiratory therapy to hold a credential as a Registered Respiratory Therapist. Clarifies respiratory therapy licensing process. Applies to applications received by the Health Licensing Office on or after the operative date of Act. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Certified respiratory therapist versus registered respiratory therapist (RRT)
- National Board for Respiratory Care national competency exam
- American Association for Respiratory Care trend to move to the RRT exam standards

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Clarifies respiratory therapy licensing process.

**BACKGROUND:**

Respiratory care practitioners provide treatment to patients with abnormalities associated with the cardiopulmonary system — or breathing disorders — under the direction of a licensed physician. Respiratory care practitioners administer therapeutic or diagnostic drugs to patients as part of a physician-prescribed treatment plan, implement a physician's orders for respiratory treatments, observe and monitor patient symptoms and assist with administering medical gases (including hyperbaric or standard oxygen, vapor therapies and ventilation support).