

HB 2397 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Kruse

Senate Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 05/04/17

Action: Do pass the A-Eng bill.

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Beyer, Knopp, Kruse, Monnes Anderson, Steiner Hayward

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Oliver Droppers, LPRO Analyst

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Creates the seven-member Public Health and Pharmacy Formulary Advisory Committee. Specifies membership, duties and responsibilities of the Committee. Directs the State Board of Pharmacy to establish, by rule, the formulary for drugs and devices that pharmacists may prescribe and dispense to patients under specific conditions. Directs the Committee to recommend drugs and devices to be included in the formulary. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure
- Role and scope of practice for Oregon pharmacists as health providers
- Increased and cost-effective access to medications made possible by allowing pharmacists to prescribe medications

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The role of pharmacists as health care providers has reportedly enhanced access to cost-effective and quality health care for patients. In January 2017, the Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS) released an informational bulletin encouraging states to expand the scope of practice for pharmacists to improve timely access to care. The Oregon State Pharmacy Association reports that the need among pharmacists to prescribe non-diagnostic therapies, medications, tests or devices to manage diseases continues to increase. This includes prescribing and refilling diabetic testing supplies, asthma inhalers and smoking cessation aids.

House Bill 2397-A directs the Oregon Board of Pharmacy to adopt rules to allow pharmacists to prescribe specific drugs, devices and laboratory tests. The bill also directs the Board to convene a seven-member Public Health and Pharmacy Formulary Advisory Committee.