

**HB 2432 B STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Sen. Dembrow

**Senate Committee On Health Care**

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**Action Date:** 05/04/17

**Action:** Do pass with amendments to the A-Eng bill. (Printed B-Eng.)

**Vote:** 5-0-0-0

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

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Directs Oregon Health Authority's (OHA) Health Licensing Office (HLO) to issue licenses to qualified art therapist to practice art therapy. Specifies license qualifications and requires licensed art therapist to comply with HLO's adopted rules. Allows individuals licensed under Oregon law in a profession or occupation other than art therapy, who use art therapy in a manner incidental to their practice, to perform art therapy without a license from OHA. Grants HLO the authority to impose a form of discipline against any licensed person practicing art therapy for violations established by the bill. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Types of art therapy
- Confusion about what art therapy is as a profession
- Clinical training and credentialing of art therapists in the U.S.
- Ability for other professionals to use art therapy without being licensed

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Expands the types of professionals able to engage in the practice of art therapy without a license. Removes reference to professions that may use art therapy in a manner that is incidental to the person's practice. Allows OHA's HLO to impose a form of discipline against any licensed person practicing art therapy for violations established by the bill.

**BACKGROUND:**

The American Art Therapy Association defines art therapy as a mental health profession in which clients, facilitated by the art therapist, use art media, the creative process and the resulting artwork to explore their feelings, reconcile emotional conflicts, foster self-awareness, manage behavior and addictions, develop social skills, improve reality orientation, reduce anxiety and increase self-esteem. Art therapy is practiced in a wide range of settings, including hospitals, psychiatric and rehabilitation facilities, wellness centers, forensic institutions, schools, crisis centers, senior communities, private practice, and other clinical and community settings. Recent studies on the clinical effectiveness and cost effectiveness of art therapy among individuals with mental health disorders (2015 and 2016) indicate art therapy may offer benefits for individuals with a mental health diagnosis.

House Bill 2432-B directs the Oregon Health Authority to license qualified art therapists to practice art therapy in Oregon.