

House Bill 3014

Sponsored by Representative KENNEMER, Senator MONNES ANDERSON (at the request of Oregon Society for Respiratory Care)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requires applicants for initial license to practice respiratory therapy and for license by reciprocity to practice respiratory therapy to hold credential as Registered Respiratory Therapist. Applies to applications received by Health Licensing Office on or after operative date of Act.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to respiratory therapists; creating new provisions; amending ORS 688.815; and declaring
3 an emergency.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 688.815 is amended to read:

6 688.815. (1) An applicant for a license to practice respiratory care shall:

7 (a) Submit to the Health Licensing Office written evidence that the applicant:

8 (A) Is at least 18 years of age;

9 (B) Has completed an approved four-year high school course of study or the equivalent as de-
10 termined by the appropriate educational agency; *[and]*

11 (C) Has completed a respiratory care education program approved by the American Medical
12 Association in collaboration with the Joint Review Committee for Respiratory Therapy Education
13 or their successors or equivalent organizations, as approved by the Respiratory Therapist and
14 Polysomnographic Technologist Licensing Board; and

15 **(D) Holds an active credential conferred by the National Board for Respiratory Care, or
16 its successor organization, as a Registered Respiratory Therapist; and**

17 (b) Pass *[an examination]* **any examinations** approved by the **Respiratory Therapist and
18 Polysomnographic Technologist Licensing Board, including but not limited to an examination
19 regarding Oregon law and administrative rules related to the practice of respiratory care.**

20 (2) An applicant meets the requirements of subsection (1)(a)(C) of this section if the applicant
21 provides the office with documentation of military training or experience that the board determines
22 is substantially equivalent to the education required by subsection (1)(a)(C) of this section.

23 (3) The office may issue a license to practice respiratory care by endorsement or reciprocity to:

24 (a) An applicant who is currently licensed to practice respiratory care under the laws of another
25 state, territory or country if the qualifications of the applicant are considered by the office to be
26 equivalent to those required in this state; or

27 (b) An applicant holding an active credential conferred by the National Board for Respiratory
28 Care, **or its successor organization**, as a *[Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) or as a]* Registered
29 Respiratory Therapist *[(RRT), or both]*.

30 **SECTION 2. The amendments to ORS 688.815 by section 1 of this 2017 Act apply to ap-**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 plications received by the Health Licensing Office on or after the operative date of this 2017
2 Act.

3 **SECTION 3.** (1) The amendments to ORS 688.815 by section 1 of this 2017 Act become
4 operative on January 1, 2018.

5 (2) The Health Licensing Office and the Respiratory Therapist and Polysomnographic
6 Technologist Licensing Board may take any action before the operative date specified in
7 subsection (1) of this section that is necessary to enable the office and board to exercise, on
8 or after the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section, all of the duties, func-
9 tions and powers conferred on the office and the board by the amendments to ORS 688.815
10 by section 1 of this 2017 Act.

11 **SECTION 4.** This 2017 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
12 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2017 Act takes effect
13 on its passage.

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