



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Board of Nursing

17938 SW Upper Boones Ferry Rd

Portland, OR 97224-7012

(971) 673-0685

Fax: (971) 673-0684

Oregon.BN.INFO@state.or.us

www.oregon.gov/OSBN

February 4, 2019

Before the
Senate Committee on Health Care

Senate Bill 65

The Oregon State Board of Nursing wishes to submit testimony regarding Senate Bill 65. The purpose of the bill is to create a standalone advanced practice nurse license for certified nurse midwives.

Nationwide, the term for advanced practice registered nurses whose specialty is nurse midwifery is "certified nurse midwife." Oregon is the only state or US territory that uses another term; in Oregon, such APRNs are called "nurse midwife nurse practitioners." This creates difficulty and confusion when a CNM licensed elsewhere applies for licensure in Oregon.

The OSBN proposes to separate nurse midwives from the nurse practitioner license type and create a new standalone license type for certified nurse midwives, which will bring Oregon in line with national standards. The new CNM licensees will be able to hold prescriptive privileges, the same as nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists. They will practice nursing as they do now, just under a different license type.

Although the original bill covers the parameters of CNM practice within the nursing statutes, the OSBN has requested an amendment to ensure that the new certified nurse midwives will have the same privileges they hold now as nurse practitioners. The amendment covers issues such as reimbursement and limited liability protections.

We anticipate there will be no fiscal impact as a result of this bill.

The Board would be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding SB 65.