

## **SB 66 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

### **House Committee On Health Care**

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**Prepared By:** Oliver Droppers, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 4/18, 5/7

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#### **WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Authorizes the Oregon State Board of Nursing (Board) to recognize military training program as a nursing education program for licensed practical nurse. Authorizes Board to license by indorsement an applicant licensed in another state or territory upon recognition of applicant's military education. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- National Council of State Boards
- Air Force nursing graduates

#### **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The Oregon State Board of Nursing (Board) safeguards the public's health and well-being by providing guidance for, and regulation of, entry into the profession, nursing education, and continuing safe practices. The Board provides licensure or certification for registered nurses (RN), licensed practical nurses (LPN), nurse practitioners (NP), certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNA), clinical nurse specialists (CNS), certified nursing assistants (CNA), and certified medication aides (CMA). Currently, applicants for nursing licensure must demonstrate graduation from a nursing education program accredited by the Board, or accredited by the licensing board or appropriate accrediting agency of another state or territory.

According to the Board, military veterans with vocational nurse training provided by the Air Force are unable to apply for the national nurse licensure exam, known as the NCLEX-PN as the Air Force training program is not nationally accredited. The Army's vocational nurse training program is accredited, however.

Senate Bill 66 allows individuals who have graduated from the Air Force training program to take the exam and be licensed as LPNs in Oregon including those licensed in other states based on recognition of military education.

*1st Chamber vote (Senate): Ayes, 29.*