

SB 742 A -A4 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 4/23, 5/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Health Licensing Office (HLO) to issue licenses to engage in the practice of athletic training. Defines "practice of athletic training." Establishes standards for licensure. Becomes operative January 1, 2020. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

REVENUE: No revenue impact.

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Role of and scope of practice for athletic trainers
- Requirement for all athletic trainers to pass national certification exam
- Changing registration to licensure for athletic trainers
- Level and types of education athletic trainers receive (e.g., bachelor or masters degree)
- Forty-nine states regulate athletic trainers (California is the exception)
- Differences in scope of practice between athletic trainers and physical therapists
- Limited-to-no reimbursement or billing for services provided by athletic trainers
- Benefits of having access to athletic trainers
- Role of athletic trainers in clinical medicine ; relationship with other health care professionals including physicians
- Ability for athletic trainers to work with professional and non-professional athletes

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-A4 Restore definitions for "athlete, athletic injury, practice athletic training, and registered athletic trainer." Modifies definition of "athlete" by removing reference to "educational institution, or professional or amateur sports activity." Removes reference to the practice of athletic training and collaboration with a licensed physician and list of specified services.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Health Licensing Office (HLO) oversees licensing and regulation of multiple health and related professions represented by 16 volunteer citizen boards, councils, and programs. Combined, HLO ensures qualification standards and ongoing professional requirements for more than 73,500 active practice, facility, and independent contractor authorizations. As one of the boards overseen by HLO, the Board of Athletic Trainers oversees the practice of athletic trainers in Oregon. Athletic trainers prevent, recognize, and evaluate athletic injuries and provide immediate care, rehabilitation, and reconditioning services to athletes. Athletic trainers work in cooperation with physicians and other allied health personnel and function as an integral member of the athletic health care team at secondary schools, colleges and universities, sports medicine clinics, professional sports programs, and other athletic health care settings. Currently, HLO provides registration of athletic trainer applicants who meet specified qualifications. The Oregon Athletic Trainers' Society (OATS) is the professional organization that certifies and registers athletic trainers in the state of Oregon.

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Senate Bill 742-A changes the qualification for practicing athletic training from a registration to a license issued by the Health Licensing Office.

1st Chamber vote (Senate): Ayes, 28, Nays, 2.