

SB 136 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Prusak

House Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 04/23/19

Action: Do Pass.

Vote: 10-1-0-0

Yeas: 10 - Alonso Leon, Boles, Drazan, Greenlick, Keny-Guyer, Mitchell, Noble, Nosse, Prusak, Salinas

Nays: 1 - Hayden

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 4/16, 4/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Removes 10-day supply limitation on prescriptions for controlled substances in Schedules II, III, III N, IV, and V issued by certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs) beginning January 1, 2020. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Legislative history of nurse anesthetists' authority to prescribe medications
- Medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder
- Treatment and management of chronic pain requiring more than a 10-day supply of medications
- Limited access to one or more pain management methods to treat chronic pain in rural communities, such as peripheral nerve block, acetaminophen, gabapentin/pregabalin, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, among others
- National certification and pharmacology education requirements to obtain prescribing authority for nurse anesthetists
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services reimbursement to treat opioid addiction
- Potential for an increase in opioid prescriptions
- Oregon Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill 136 (2013) granted certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNA) limited authority to prescribe medications under parameters set by the Oregon State Board of Nursing, including a 10-day supply limitation on the amount being prescribed. At the time, CRNAs were the only group of advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) in Oregon who lacked such authority.

Senate Bill 136 lifts the 10-day supply limitation on certified registered nurse anesthetists' authority to prescribe medications, consistent with certified nurse practitioners and certified nurse clinical specialists.