

HB 4081 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 2/11, 2/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Defines terms including “qualified physician assistant” as an individual with at least 10,000 hours of clinical experience. Specifies duties of a physician assistant under collaboration agreement including dispensing prescription drugs. Grandfathers physician assistants practicing under a practice agreement before passage of measure to continue to practice under agreement model until the agreement must be updated. Sections 1-5, 7-10, and 12 take effect January 1, 2021. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Prohibits a supervising physician from using a physician assistant (PA) without a practice agreement. Specifies a supervising physician may not enter into a practice agreement if certain conditions are met. Specifies requirements for entering into a practice agreement. Specifies responsibilities of supervising physician or supervising physician organization. Outlines requirements for PAs to prescribe and dispense controlled substances. Sections 1 to 5 become operative January 1, 2021. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

REVENUE: Revenue impact statement issued: no impact.

FISCAL: Fiscal impact statement issued: minimal impact.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Medical Board’s (Board) mission is to protect the health, safety, and wellbeing of Oregonians by regulating the practice of medicine, including licensing physician assistants (PAs). To be eligible for a PA license In Oregon, an individual must have: (1) graduated from a PA training program approved by the American Medical Association Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation (CAHEA), or the Commission on Accreditation for Allied Health Education for Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP), or the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARCPA), and (2) passed the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination (PANCE) given by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA).

Currently, a supervising physician may use the services of a PA in accordance with a practice agreement, which is a written agreement between a PA and a supervising physician or supervising physician organization (SPO) that describes what and how the PA will practice. Supervising physician or SPO is responsible for the direction and review of medical services provided by a PA.

House Bill 4081 modifies the practice arrangement between physician assistants and supervising physicians.