Senate Bill 684

Sponsored by Senator FREDERICK (at the request of Elizebeth R. Harmon) (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Establishes Task Force on Oregon Medical Board. Directs task force to review board powers and duties. Requires task force to report to interim committee of Legislative Assembly not later than September 15, 2022.

Sunsets December 31, 2022.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to the Task Force on the Oregon Medical Board; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on the Oregon Medical Board is established.

(2) The task force consists of nine members appointed as follows:

(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint three members who are members of the public who have knowledge of the administrative processes of the Oregon Medical Board and who are not licensees, as defined in ORS 677.010.

(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint three members who are members of the public who are consumers of services provided by licensees and who are not licensees.

(c) The Governor shall appoint three members who are representatives of professional associations in this state that represent licensees.

(3) The task force shall review:

(a) The board’s ability and methodology used to determine which licensees may offer which health care therapies;

(b) The board’s ability to require that hearing or court-related fees be imposed on a licensee during a disciplinary process;

(c) The board’s ability to determine the particular judge, hearing officer or administrative law judge presides over a disciplinary proceeding;

(d) The manner in which the board may assess fees and civil penalties against a licensee;

(e) The expediting of a disciplinary process;

(f) Whether the board may be required to inform a licensee who is investigated for a potential violation that results from a patient’s complaint about the nature of the complaint;

(g) Emergency licensure revocations, including how the board determines what constitutes an emergency;

(h) Whether the board can be compelled to reimburse a licensee for loss of income if it is determined through a disciplinary process that the licensee did not commit the violation that led to the disciplinary process; and

(i) Whether the board can be compelled to pay a licensee’s attorney fees and other fees

NOTE: Matter in boldfaced type in an amended section is new; matter [italic and bracketed] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in boldfaced type.
incurred in a disciplinary process if the outcome of the disciplinary process is that the licensee did not commit a violation.

(4) The task force may request information as necessary from the board.

(5) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.

(6) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members of the task force.

(7) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

(8) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appointment to become immediately effective.

(9) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson or of a majority of the members of the task force.

(10) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

(11) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided in ORS 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to health care no later than September 15, 2022.

(12) The Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall provide staff support to the task force.

(13) Members of the task force are not entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers on the task force.

(14) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist the task force in the performance of the duties of the task force and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task force consider necessary to perform their duties.

SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2021 Act is repealed on December 31, 2022.

SECTION 3. This 2021 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2021 Act takes effect on its passage.