

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 70: Oregon State Board of Nursing Investigation and Administrative Support

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Human Services Subcommittee
Carrier: Representative Valderrama

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means recommend including an increase of \$512,160 in Other Funds expenditure limitation and authorize the establishment of three positions in a budget reconciliation bill during the 2024 legislative session for the Oregon State Board of Nursing to reopen the agency's contact center, address a backlog in case investigations, and provide administrative support.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board of Nursing closed its contact center to focus on a significant increase in licensing requests. To manage the reopening of contact center while still providing a dedicated focus on the licensing workload, the Board has requested a new Contact Center Supervisor position. The Board has also requested an additional Investigator 3 position to address a backlog of 200 investigation cases.

In addition, the Board is requesting authorization to establish a Business Operations Administrator 1 position. This position will provide greater administrative oversight and assist frontline managers with managing their increasing workloads.

The Board's Other Funds cash balance currently represents 14 months of operating funds and is sufficient to support these positions.

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends approval.