

HB 2523 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Business and Labor

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Meeting Dates: 1/30

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Decreases number of course hours required before person may sit for certified public accountant exam.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Board of Accountancy (Board) assures that approximately 9,400 Certified Public Accountants, Public Accountants, municipal auditors and public accounting firms registered to practice in Oregon demonstrate and maintain professional competency to serve the needs of their clients and other users of their services. The Board is authorized to establish and enforce standards and regulations and license qualified applicants to practice public accountancy in Oregon.

Currently to sit for the certified public accountant exam a candidate must present evidence of graduation with a baccalaureate or higher degree from a college or university that is accredited by one of the six regional accrediting associations or by another accrediting body that is recognized by the Board. In addition, a candidate must have completed 150 or more semester hours or 225 or more quarter hours or an equivalent in courses that include accounting, business, economics, finance, written and oral communications, and other subjects as determined by the Board as appropriate for the accountancy profession.

House Bill 2523 reduces the number of course hours required before person may sit for certified public accountant exam. The measure requires the completion of 120 or more semester hours or 180 or more quarter hours or the equivalent of to sit for the exam.