

**HB 2919 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**House Committee On Judiciary**

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**Meeting Dates:** 2/15

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Provides immunity in some circumstances to a registered nurse from criminal liability for acts or omission arising out of the provision of patient care in good faith.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Oregon State Board of Nursing regulates the practice of over 72,000 registered and practical nurses in Oregon. Among other things, the Board has the authority to discipline licensed nurses for medical errors or violations of the nurse practice act, including in some cases revoking a person's license to practice. Recently, in other states, in addition to being disciplined, some nurses have been criminally charged for making medical mistakes. For example, in 2022, a nurse in Tennessee was convicted of gross neglect of an impaired adult and negligent homicide for providing the wrong medication to a patient that caused the patient's death.

House Bill 2919 would provide immunity to a registered nurse who makes a medical error while providing patient care in good faith. The immunity would not extend to any offense with a knowing or intentional culpable mental state.