

HB 2996 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

Prepared By: Maya Green, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/19, 4/24

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prohibits Oregon Board of Dentistry from requiring dental assistant applicants to pass a written examination for radiological proficiency. Prohibits Oregon Health Authority from adopting rules requiring dental assistants to pass written examination related to X-ray operation. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Has minimal fiscal impact

Ayes, 47; Nays, 10--Breese-Iverson, Cate, Cramer, Elmer, Evans, Lewis, Mannix, Morgan, Reschke, Wright;
Excused, 3--Boshart Davis, Levy B, Scharf

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Board of Dentistry regulates the practice of dentistry in the state, including the licensing of dentists, dental hygienists, and dental therapists. In Oregon, dental assistants are not licensed, but must be certified to take X-rays or perform other expanded functions. Current Oregon Administrative Rules allow licensed dentists to authorize certified dental assistants to place films/sensors, adjust equipment preparatory to exposing films/sensors, and expose the films and create the images under general supervision. Dental assistants who have completed a course of instruction approved by the Oregon Board of Dentistry and passed the written Dental Radiation Health and Safety Examination administered by the Dental Assisting National Board, or comparable exam, may perform the same duties under the indirect supervision of a dentist, dental therapist, dental hygienist, or dental assistant who holds an Oregon Radiologic Proficiency Certificate.

House Bill 2996 A prohibits the Oregon Board of Dentistry and Oregon Health Authority from requiring dental assistants and dental assistant applicants to pass written examinations related to radiological proficiency and X-ray machine operation.