

**A-Engrossed**  
**House Bill 2626**

Ordered by the House March 30  
Including House Amendments dated March 30

Sponsored by Representative LEVY B, Senator HANSELL; Representatives DEXTER, GOODWIN, HIEB, MORGAN, SMITH DB, WRIGHT, Senators GELSER BLOUIN, WEBER (Pre-session 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.

Adds licensed mental health professionals, **naturopathic physicians and pharmacists** and certified medical laboratory scientists and medical laboratory technicians to types of providers eligible for tax credit allowed to rural medical care provider. **Removes requirement of hospital consulting privileges applicable to optometrist claiming credit.** Applies to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2024.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

1  
2 Relating to rural medical provider tax credits; creating new provisions; amending ORS 315.616; and  
3 prescribing an effective date.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 315.616 is amended to read:

6 315.616. A resident or nonresident individual who is certified as eligible under ORS 442.561,  
7 442.562, 442.563 or 442.564, and is licensed as a physician under ORS chapter 677, licensed as a  
8 physician assistant under ORS chapter 677, licensed as a nurse practitioner under ORS chapter 678,  
9 licensed as a certified registered nurse anesthetist under ORS chapter 678, licensed as a dentist  
10 under ORS chapter 679 [or], licensed as an optometrist under ORS 683.010 to 683.340, **licensed as**  
11 **a naturopathic physician under ORS chapter 685, licensed as a pharmacist under ORS chap-**  
12 **ter 689, licensed by the Oregon Board of Psychology as a psychologist, licensed by the State**  
13 **Board of Licensed Social Workers as a clinical social worker, licensed by the Oregon Board**  
14 **of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists as a professional counselor or marriage**  
15 **and family therapist or certified by the American Society for Clinical Pathology as a medical**  
16 **laboratory scientist or as a medical laboratory technician** is entitled to the tax credit described  
17 in ORS 315.613 even if not a member of the hospital medical staff if the Office of Rural Health  
18 certifies that the individual:

19 (1) Is engaged for at least 20 hours per week, averaged over the month, during the tax year in  
20 a rural practice; and

21 [(2)(a) *If a physician or a physician assistant, can cause a patient to be admitted to the hospital;*]

22 [(b) *If a certified registered nurse anesthetist, is employed by or has a contractual relationship with*  
23 *one of the hospitals described in ORS 315.613 (1); or]*

24 [(c) *If an optometrist, has consulting privileges with a hospital listed in ORS 315.613 (1). This*  
25 *paragraph does not apply to an optometrist who qualifies as a "frontier rural practitioner," as defined*

**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.

1 *by the Office of Rural Health.]*

2 **(2)(a) If a physician or a physician assistant, can cause a patient to be admitted to the**  
3 **hospital; or**

4 **(b) If a certified registered nurse anesthetist, is employed by or has a contractual re-**  
5 **lationship with one of the hospitals described in ORS 315.613 (3).**

6 **SECTION 2. The amendments to ORS 315.616 by section 1 of this 2023 Act apply to tax**  
7 **years beginning on or after January 1, 2024.**

8 **SECTION 3. This 2023 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2023**  
9 **regular session of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.**

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