

Requested by Senator PATTERSON

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
SENATE BILL 529**

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, delete lines 5 through 26 and delete pages
2 2 through 4 and insert:

3 **“SECTION 1.** ORS 414.667 is amended to read:

4 **“414.667. As used in ORS [414.667, 414.668 and 414.669,] 414.665 to 414.669:**

5 **“(1) ‘Community-based organization’ means a community-based or-**
6 **ganization that provides health care services through traditional**
7 **health workers or community health registered nurses.**

8 **“(2) ‘Community health registered nurse’ means a registered nurse**
9 **licensed under ORS 678.010 to 678.410 who engages in the practice of**
10 **nursing, as that term is defined in ORS 678.010, to provide patient care**
11 **outside of a health care facility and in a setting that combines primary**
12 **care and public health.**

13 **“(3) ‘Doula’ means an individual who meets criteria for a doula adopted**
14 **by the Oregon Health Authority in accordance with ORS 414.665.**

15 **“(4) ‘Traditional health worker’ includes any of the following:**

16 **“(a) A community health worker.**

17 **“(b) A personal health navigator.**

18 **“(c) A peer wellness specialist.**

19 **“(d) A peer support specialist.**

20 **“(e) A doula.**

21 **“(f) A tribal traditional health worker.**

1 **“SECTION 2.** ORS 414.665 is amended to read:

2 “414.665. [(1) *As used in this section, ‘traditional health worker’ includes*
3 *any of the following:*]

4 “[(a) *A community health worker.*]

5 “[(b) *A personal health navigator.*]

6 “[(c) *A peer wellness specialist.*]

7 “[(d) *A peer support specialist.*]

8 “[(e) *A doula.*]

9 “[(f) *A tribal traditional health worker.*]

10 “[(2)] (1) In consultation with the Traditional Health Workers Commis-
11 sion established under ORS 413.600, the Oregon Health Authority, for pur-
12 poses related to the regulation of traditional health workers, shall adopt by
13 rule:

14 “(a) The qualification criteria, including education and training require-
15 ments, for the traditional health workers utilized by coordinated care or-
16 ganizations;

17 “(b) Appropriate professional designations for supervisors of the tradi-
18 tional health workers; and

19 “[(c) *Processes by which other occupational classifications may be approved*
20 *to supervise the traditional health workers.*]

21 **“(c) Requirements for the supervision of traditional health workers.**

22 **“(2) The requirements for the supervision of traditional health**
23 **workers under this section must:**

24 **“(a) Create processes to allow other occupational classifications to**
25 **be approved by the authority to supervise traditional health workers;**

26 **“(b) Allow individuals who are not licensed but who have sufficient**
27 **professional experience, as determined by the authority, to supervise**
28 **traditional health workers; and**

29 **“(c) Establish a level and frequency of supervision of traditional**
30 **health workers that will allow for group supervision and remote**

1 **supervision.**

2 “(3) The criteria and requirements established under [*subsection (2) of*]
3 this section:

4 “(a) Must be broad enough to encompass the potential unique needs of
5 any coordinated care organization;

6 “(b) Must meet requirements of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid
7 Services to qualify for federal financial participation; and

8 “(c) May not require certification by the Home Care Commission.

9 **“SECTION 3. Sections 4 and 5 of this 2025 Act are added to and**
10 **made a part of ORS 414.665 to 414.669.**

11 **“SECTION 4. (1) The Oregon Health Authority shall adopt rules**
12 **related to the regulation of community health registered nurses. The**
13 **rules adopted under this section must include qualification criteria,**
14 **including training and education requirements, for community health**
15 **registered nurses utilized by coordinated care organizations.**

16 **“(2) The criteria and requirements established under subsection (1)**
17 **of this section:**

18 **“(a) Must be broad enough to encompass the potential unique needs**
19 **of any coordinated care organization;**

20 **“(b) Must meet requirements of the Centers for Medicare and**
21 **Medicaid Services to qualify for federal financial participation; and**

22 **“(c) May not require supervision of community health registered**
23 **nurses.**

24 **“SECTION 5. The Oregon Health Authority shall contract directly**
25 **with community health registered nurses and community-based or-**
26 **ganizations to provide services to medical assistance recipients.**

27 **“SECTION 6. ORS 414.668 is amended to read:**

28 **“414.668. (1) A coordinated care organization may provide re-**
29 **imbursement on a fee-for-service basis or using alternative payment**
30 **methodologies to:**

1 “(a) Traditional health workers;

2 “(b) Community health registered nurses; and

3 “(c) Community-based organizations.

4 “(2) A coordinated care organization shall provide information to
5 community health registered nurses and community-based organiza-
6 tions about the process for requesting to contract with the coordinated
7 care organization as an in-network provider. A coordinated care or-
8 ganization shall approve or deny a request to contract submitted by a
9 community health registered nurse or community-based organization
10 within 90 days.

11 “(3) A coordinated care organization shall make information about how
12 to access [*doula*] services **from traditional health workers and commu-**
13 **nity health registered nurses** available on a website operated by or on
14 behalf of the coordinated care organization and shall provide the information
15 in print whenever a printed explanation of benefits is available.

16 “**SECTION 7.** ORS 414.669 is amended to read:

17 “414.669. (1) **The Oregon Health Authority shall establish compre-**
18 **hensive billing codes to include reimbursement for the costs of a wide**
19 **range of preventive and social support services provided by traditional**
20 **health workers and community health registered nurses to medical**
21 **assistance recipients. To be eligible for reimbursement, services pro-**
22 **vided by a traditional health worker or community health registered**
23 **nurse must be medically necessary and medically appropriate, as de-**
24 **termined by the authority.**

25 “(2) [*The Oregon Health authority, in coordination with the Traditional*
26 *Health Workers Commission, shall in each even-numbered year review, and*
27 *revise if necessary, any rates of reimbursement for doulas.*] **In each even-**
28 **numbered year the authority shall:**

29 “(a) **In coordination with the Traditional Health Workers Commis-**
30 **sion, review and revise if necessary any rates of reimbursement for**

1 **traditional health workers.**

2 **“(b) Review and revise if necessary any rates of reimbursement for**
3 **community health registered nurses.**

4 **“(3) When reviewing and revising rates of reimbursement under this**
5 **section, the authority shall consider factors including retention of [doulas]**
6 **traditional health workers and community health registered nurses,**
7 **administrative costs to support traditional health workers and com-**
8 **munity health registered nurses, access to culturally specific [doulas]**
9 **traditional health workers and community health registered nurses**
10 **and evidence-based factors and empirical studies related to the cost-**
11 **effectiveness of services provided by [doulas] traditional health workers**
12 **and community health registered nurses.**

13 **“(4) The authority may not require a medical diagnosis as a condi-**
14 **tion of reimbursing the cost of a service provided by a traditional**
15 **health worker or a community health registered nurse to a medical**
16 **assistance recipient when the service is provided outside of a health**
17 **care facility.**

18 **“SECTION 8. Sections 4 and 5 of this 2025 Act and the amendments**
19 **to ORS 414.665, 414.667, 414.668 and 414.669 by sections 1, 2, 6 and 7 of**
20 **this 2025 Act become operative on January 1, 2026.**

21 **“SECTION 9. The Oregon Health Authority may take any action**
22 **before the operative date specified in section 8 of this 2025 Act that is**
23 **necessary to enable the authority to exercise, on and after the opera-**
24 **tive date specified in section 8 of this 2025 Act, all of the duties,**
25 **functions and powers conferred on the authority by sections 4 and 5**
26 **of this 2025 Act and the amendments to ORS 414.665, 414.667, 414.668**
27 **and 414.669 by sections 1, 2, 6 and 7 of this 2025 Act.**

28 **“SECTION 10. The amendments to ORS 414.668 by section 6 of this**
29 **2025 Act apply to new, amended or renewed contracts between a coor-**
30 **ordinated care organization and the Oregon Health Authority that take**

1 effect on or after the operative date specified in section 8 of this 2025
2 Act.

3 **“SECTION 11. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate
4 preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is
5 declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect on its passage.”.**

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