



Oregon

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Medical Board

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Oregon Medical Board LC 642 November 14, 2014

Problem: The organizational model of the Oregon Medical Board (“OMB” or “Board”) requires that the agency participate in an 18-month budget process and use state purchasing. As an Other Funds agency with a small budget relative to other state agencies, the budget and purchasing processes use limited resources that could be redirected to better serve the public and Board licensees.

Proposed Solution: The Oregon Medical Board requested Legislative Concept (“LC”) 642 to increase the agency’s efficiency and reduce expenses while maintaining state oversight and accountability to the Governor, the Legislature, and the public.

LC 642 would transition the OMB to a semi-independent state agency by adding it to the existing list of agencies in ORS 182.454. As a result, the Board would adopt its budget through a public rulemaking hearing, and the budget would be subject to Legislative review and an audit by the Secretary of State Audits Division. This would increase stakeholder involvement and provide timely audits of the Board’s budget.

This LC would also place additional transparency requirements on the OMB for budget adoption. Specifically, the Board would be required to publish its biennial budget and agency report on its website for public inspection. Public records and meetings laws continue to ensure transparency and access to Board actions.

The Board would remain subject to state oversight. The Governor and Legislature continue to appoint and confirm Board members, who still serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The Department of Administrative Services approves personnel, contract and purchasing policies. The Department of Justice provides advice and counsel. OMB staff remain state employees and members of the union.

LC 642 would allow the Board to achieve its mission of patient safety more efficiently and effectively through better resource utilization.

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