

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Health Care

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 05/11/15

Action: Do Pass.

Meeting Dates: 04/27, 05/11

Vote:

Yeas: 8 - Buehler, Clem, Greenlick, Hayden, Kennemer, Lively, Nosse, Weidner

Exc: 1 - Keny-Guyer

Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Increases the Board of Pharmacy membership from seven to nine members. Adds licensed pharmacy technicians to the new membership positions. Requires the licensed pharmacy technicians to be in good standing, engaged in duties, and have three years of experience. Directs the Governor to appoint the licensed pharmacy technicians for terms beginning on January 1, 2016. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Role of pharmacy technicians
- Balance of pharmacy technicians to pharmacists
- Pharmacy technicians position on posting disciplinary actions

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Board of Pharmacy (Board) aims to ensure public health and safety to Oregonians by creating standards in the practice of pharmacy and by regulating the quality, manufacture, sale and distribution of drugs. The Board consists of seven members: five licensed pharmacists and two public. The Board regulates licensure and practice of pharmacy technicians.

To obtain Certified Oregon Pharmacy Technician licensure, a person must be at least 18 years of age with a GED or high school diploma and must have passed a national certification exam. Pharmacists are responsible for the work of pharmacy technicians and oversee or verify their work. Some of the tasks of pharmacy technicians are recording non-prescription, patient and medication information into a computer record system, prepackaging and relabeling packages of medication, initiating or accepting electronic refill information, packing, pouring, or placing drugs and chemicals in a container for selling or dispensing, reconstituting prescription medications, bulk compounding (combining ingredients) and preparing parenteral products (injections or infusions).