

HB 2103 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Steiner Hayward

Senate Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 05/30/17

Action: Do pass.

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Beyer, Knopp, Kruse, Monnes Anderson, Steiner Hayward

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows licensed nurse practitioners to perform vasectomies.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Scope of practice for nurse practitioners in Oregon
- Different educational and surgical training requirements for nurse practitioners, family medicine physicians and urologists
- Concerns about vasectomy procedures and risks of surgical complications
- Concerns about adequacy of nurse practitioner training and experience for procedure

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

A nurse practitioner (NP) is a registered nurse with advanced training in diagnosing and treating illnesses; they are generally authorized to prescribe medications, treat illnesses and administer physical exams. Nurse practitioners provide primary care, some acute care, and are qualified to meet many patients' health-care needs. Research indicates NPs increase access to services, provide quality provider-client interaction and focus on health education and prevention. Oregon law allows NPs to perform procedures such as bone marrow aspiration, chest tube placement and lumbar puncture with the appropriate training, competency, credentialing and privileging.

A vasectomy is a medical procedure that makes a male individual sterile and serves as a form of permanent birth control. The procedure is often done in an outpatient setting with local anesthesia by a urologist or family physician. Several states including Washington and Alaska allow NPs to perform vasectomies.

House Bill 2103 allows nurse practitioners to perform vasectomies in Oregon.