

HB 2011 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 4/2, 4/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires professional regulatory licensing boards to adopt rules requiring licensed professionals to complete cultural competency continuing education as a condition of renewal of licensure. Authorizes public universities and community colleges to require licensed health professionals that provide services to students to complete every two years cultural competency continuing education approved by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). Authorizes OHA and the Health Licensing Office to adopt rules to implement provisions of the measure.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Clarifies completion of the continuing education requirement must be met every other time a licensee's authorization is subject to renewal. Allows a professional board to consider the availability of continuing education when adopting rules related to the number of required credits of continuing education. Modifies requirements for public universities and community colleges to require licensed health professionals that provide services to students to complete cultural competency continuing education. Extends effective date from January 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021.

REVENUE: No revenue impact.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

BACKGROUND:

In 2013, the Legislative Assembly enacted HB 2611, with a Jan. 1, 2015 operative date to start developing a new cultural competency continuing education (CCCE) program, which is voluntary for licensees among 22 health professional licensing boards. In 2014, the Oregon Health Authority, through a rulemaking process, defined "cultural competency" as meaning "a lifelong process of examining the values and beliefs and developing and applying an inclusive approach to health practice in a manner that recognizes the content and complexities of provider-patient communication and interaction and preserves the dignity of individuals, families, and communities." OHA also established requirements that applicable licensing boards shall report to the agency: (1) licensee/member requirements for participation in the program, (2) number of regulated health care professionals who completed CCCE, (3) number of audited health care professionals who completed CCCE from the OHA approved list, and (4) level of reporting each board requires of licensees/members regarding participation in CCCE.

In a 2018 report to the Legislative Assembly, OHA states that among the 22 professional boards:

- 15 boards require licensees to report on CCCE during license renewal;
- 14 of 17 boards participating in OHA's Health Care Workforce Survey chose to add a CCCE question to their survey;
- 16 boards require licensees to report on CCCE during audits; and,
- 2 boards have no CCCE reporting requirements of licensees.

As of 2018, the percent of health care professional boards who have completed CCE ranges from 43.9 percent (nursing) to .01 percent (emergency medical services and trauma systems).

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House Bill 2011 directs health professional licensing boards to require completion of cultural competency education as a condition of being authorized (i.e., licensed) to practice health care.