

75th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2009 Regular Session
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

MEASURE: SB 161-A

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Kennemer
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Winters

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure

Vote: 19 – 0 – 3

House

Yeas: Buckley, D. Edwards, Galizio, Garrard, Gilman, Kotek, Nathanson, Richardson, Shields, G. Smith

Nays:

Exc: Jenson, Komp

Senate

Yeas: Bates, Carter, Girod, Johnson, Monroe, Nelson, Verger, Walker, Winters

Nays:

Exc: Whitsett

Prepared By: Kim To, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: June 11, 2009

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Establishes civil penalty authority and modifies the certification and accreditation of hospice programs in Oregon by establishing the authority of the Department of Human Services (DHS) to license all hospice programs in the state. Authorizes DHS to adopt rules regarding requirements, qualifications and fees for licensure. Requires DHS to conduct inspections at least once every three years, and allows DHS to impose civil penalty of \$1,000 per day up to \$10,000 in any 30-day period for violation of terms or conditions of licensure (operative on January 1, 2010).

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Public needs one place to turn to with complaints
- Central authority for licensing, certification, and accreditation will reduce confusion

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Currently, hospice agencies are not licensed, but rather certified or accredited through Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Oregon Hospice Association, and Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. Inspection frequency is currently every six to ten years under the Medicare survey grant and contingent on funding levels.