

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Freeman
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Bates

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure as Amended and as Printed B-Engrossed

Vote: 25 – 0 – 0

House

Yeas: Beyer, Buckley, Cowan, Freeman, Garrard, Komp, Kotek, McLane, Nathanson, Nolan, Richardson, G. Smith, Thatcher, Whisnant

Nays:

Exc:

Senate

Yeas: Bates, Devlin, Edwards, Girod, Johnson, Monroe, Nelson, Thomsen, Verger, Whitsett, Winters

Nays:

Exc:

Prepared By: Linda Ames, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: June 20, 2011

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs Oregon Health Authority to establish levels of licensure for emergency medical services (EMS) providers. Modifies emergency medical services provider terminology.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Minimal fiscal impact on the Oregon Health Authority
- No fiscal impact on the Oregon Medical Board

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces original bill with the contents of House Bill 3667.

BACKGROUND: According to proponents, this language is intended to place national standard terminology/nomenclature for emergency medical personnel in Oregon statute. This is critical for three reasons: 1) national standard level nomenclature has already changed. Oregon needs to remain consistent for reciprocity of personnel across state lines. If an emergency medical technician (EMT) moves to Oregon from out of state and Oregon has not adopted the new language, the EMT could be prevented from obtaining an Oregon license and volunteering or gaining employment here, simply because of terminology. This could have a significant impact on smaller and rural communities, in particular. 2) The Oregon Medical Board (OMB) has already adopted the new nomenclature in its administrative rules regarding scope of practice; without the statutory change and Oregon Health Authority (OHA) rule changes this would leave a mismatch between OMB and OHA rules/terminology. 3) During disaster response where EMS personnel come to Oregon to assist or Oregon EMS personnel are deployed elsewhere, having levels that do not match national standards make it difficult to assure that responders are used effectively and within a known scope of practice.