



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 60

**House Committee on Health Care
Rep. Mitch Greenlick
April 18, 2017**

Good afternoon Chair Greenlick, Members of the Committee,

For the record, my name is Nicole Krishnaswami, and I serve as the Legislative and Policy Analyst for the Oregon Medical Board.

Thank you for hearing Senate Bill 60, which allows a board member who has recently ended his or her term to fill an absent member's seat during a committee or board meeting. As a result, the legislation assures that the public members and the various professions are represented as the board carries out its important work for patient safety.

SB 60 directs the board chairperson to select up to three former board members to serve as "emeritus board members." The emeritus members must have served on the board within the past three years. These provisions ensure that the emeritus members have been recently confirmed by the Senate and are familiar with the board's operations.

In the event that a currently serving board member provides advance notice of an absence, one of the selected emeritus members who holds the same license or who fulfills the same public role may serve as a substitute.

To ensure transparency and accountability, SB 60 requires the chosen emeritus members to be approved by the Governor. They also serve at the pleasure of the Governor. In addition, the list of approved emeritus board members will be publicly available on the board's website along with their biographies and the dates they previously served on the board.

SB 60 improves the board's ability to achieve its mission of patient safety by providing full representation of each position on the board even when currently appointed members may be unable to attend.

THE OREGON MEDICAL BOARD RESPECTFULLY REQUESTS A "DO PASS" RECOMMENDATION ON SB 60.

Nicole Krishnaswami
Legislative & Policy Analyst