

HB 2432 -A8 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 4/25, 5/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Oregon Health Authority's (OHA) Health Licensing Office (HLO) to issue licenses to practice art therapy to qualified art therapists. Specifies license qualifications and requires licensed art therapist to comply with HLO adopted rules. Allows individuals licensed under Oregon law in a profession or occupation other than art therapy who uses art therapy in a manner incidental to the person's practice to perform art therapy without a license from OHA. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

REVENUE: No revenue impact.

FISCAL: Fiscal impact issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Types of art therapy
- Confusion about what forms art therapy, as a profession
- Clinical training and credentialing of art therapists in the U.S.
- Ability for other professionals to use art therapy without being licensed

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-A8 Expands the types of professionals able to engage in the practice of art therapy without a license. Removes reference to professions that may use art therapy in a manner that's incidental to the person's practice. Allows OHA's Health Licensing Office to impose a form of discipline against any person practicing art therapy for violations established by the bill.

BACKGROUND:

The American Art Therapy Association defines art therapy as a mental health profession in which clients, facilitated by the art therapist, use art media, the creative process, and the resulting artwork to explore their feelings, reconcile emotional conflicts, foster self-awareness, manage behavior and addictions, develop social skills, improve reality orientation, reduce anxiety, and increase self-esteem. Art therapy is practiced in a wide range of settings including hospitals, psychiatric and rehabilitation facilities, wellness centers, forensic institutions, schools, crisis centers, senior communities, private practice, and other clinical and community settings.

Two systematic reviews of the clinical effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of art therapy among individuals with mental health disorders (2015 and 2016) indicate art therapy is associated with positive effects, offering benefits for individuals with a mental health diagnosis.

House Bill 2432-A requires the Health Licensing Office within the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to establish a board and program for licensing and regulating the practice of art therapy.