



Oregon

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Before the
Senate Committee on Health Care

Senate Bill 127 -1

The Oregon State Board of Nursing wishes to submit testimony regarding the -1 amendment to Senate Bill 127.

The amendment resolves several unintended issues that arose during the Board's initial attempt (through SB 65) to remedy the discrepancy between the legal license type "nurse midwife nurse practitioner" used in the Nurse Practice Act, and the broadly accepted and used moniker "certified nurse midwife."

After lengthy discussions with the Board's legal counsel, we discovered that the Board's main goal of clarity could be achieved by a rule change. To pursue this solution, five minor changes will be required in statute that are addressed by the -1 amendment. The amendment changes the term "nurse midwife nurse practitioner" to "nurse practitioners who specialize in nurse midwifery."

We discussed the solution at length with representatives from the Oregon Nurses Association and the Oregon chapter of the American College of Nurse-Midwives, as well as other CNM advocates, and they expressed their support for the -1 amendment.

We anticipate there will be no fiscal impact as a result of this bill. The Board would be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding the -1 amendment to SB 127.