

SB 64 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Health Care

Prepared By: Oliver Droppers, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Updates provisions to clarify that Oregon State Board of Nursing (Board) grants license, not certification or registration, as authorization to practice as nurse practitioner. Clarifies that Board approves nursing education programs. Clarifies Board fee-setting authority. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon State Board of Nursing (Board) safeguards the public's health and well-being by providing guidance for, and regulation of, entry into the profession, nursing education, and continuing safe practices. The Board provides licensure or certification for registered nurses (RN), licensed practical nurses (LPN), nurse practitioners (NP), certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNA), clinical nurse specialists (CNS), certified nursing assistants (CNA), and certified medication aides (CMA). The Board is also responsible for approving nursing education programs in Oregon. According to the Board, current statute refers to this function as both "approval" and "accreditation." However, the Board does not accredit institutions of higher education; thus creating confusion.

Senate Bill 64-A updates various statutory provisions to clarify that the Board provides licensure to nurse practitioners and approves nursing education programs.

1st Chamber vote (Senate): Ayes, 29.