

HB 2011 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 5/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires specified health professional regulatory boards to require people authorized to practice the profession regulated by the board to complete cultural competency continuing education as a condition of renewal of the authorization to practice. Exempts people who are retired or not otherwise practicing in the state from continuing education requirements. Makes continuing education requirements operative on July 1, 2021. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal impact issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Legislative Assembly enacted HB 2611 (2013), with a January 1, 2015 operative date to start developing a new cultural competency continuing education (CCCE) program, which is currently voluntary for licensees among 22 health professional licensing boards. In 2014, the Oregon Health Authority, through a rulemaking process, defined “cultural competency” as meaning “a lifelong process of examining the values and beliefs and developing and applying an inclusive approach to health practice in a manner that recognizes the content and complexities of provider-patient communication and interaction and preserves the dignity of individuals, families, and communities.” OHA also established requirements that applicable licensing boards shall report to the agency: (1) licensee/member requirements for participation in the program, (2) number of regulated health care professionals who completed CCCE, (3) number of audited health care professionals who completed CCCE from the OHA-approved list, and (4) level of reporting each board requires of licensees/members regarding participation in CCCE.

In a 2018 report to the Legislative Assembly, OHA stated that among the 22 professional boards:

- 15 boards require licensees to report on CCCE during license renewal;
- 14 of 17 boards participating in OHA’s Health Care Workforce Survey chose to add a CCCE question to their survey;
- 16 boards require licensees to report on CCCE during audits; and,
- Two boards have no CCCE reporting requirements of licensees.

As of 2018, the percent of health care professional boards who have completed CCCE ranges from 43.9 percent (nursing) to .01 percent (emergency medical services and trauma systems).

House Bill 2011-A directs health professional licensing boards to require completion of cultural competency education as a condition of being authorized to practice.

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HHC Vote: 11-0

House Floor Vote: 54-4

PRELIMINARY