

HB 3016 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 5/5, 5/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes a hospital to deviate from a hospital nurse staffing plan upon declaration of a national or state emergency. Requires a hospital to report on nurse staffing needs during a national or state emergency, including developing a contingency staffing plan that includes crisis standards of care. Requires a hospital that deviates from its nurse staffing plan to seek approval from the hospital nurse staffing committee if deviation is in effect for more than 90 days.

House Vote: *Passed. Ayes, 33; Nays, 16; Excused, 11.*

REVENUE: *No revenue impact.*

FISCAL: *No fiscal impact.*

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on nurse staffing levels in hospitals
- Oregon's nurse staffing law, acute crisis, emergency declaration, staff plan suspensions and deviations, and temporary staffing plan(s)
- Oregon Nurse Staffing Advisory Board, representation, and internal hospital staffing committees

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill 469 passed in 2015, requiring every Oregon hospital to establish a hospital nurse staffing committee to develop a written hospital-wide staffing plan to ensure that the hospital is staffed to meet the health care needs of patients. In addition, the bill established the 12-member Nurse Staffing Advisory Board charged with advising the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) regarding administration and enforcement of staffing plans. The measure also requires OHA to audit individual hospitals every three years and make the findings publicly available. Hospitals found to be in violation of the administrative rules for nurse staffing services receive an audit report and must submit a plan of correction to OHA, which must be approved by the agency. OHA maintains and posts online any reports generated from nurse staffing surveys and complaint investigations.

House Bill 3016 modifies requirements for hospital nurse staffing plans during a national or state emergency declaration.