



Oregon

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Board of Nursing

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Before the
Senate Committee on Health Care

Senate Bill 40

The Oregon State Board of Nursing wishes to submit testimony regarding Senate Bill 40. The purpose of the bill is to add a requirement for nurses licensed in other states or countries who wish to be licensed in Oregon to have graduated from a nursing program that includes a clinical component.

Some out-of-state nursing education programs do not include a clinical component, which creates a perceived risk to the safety of Oregonians. Nursing is a practice discipline, so actual contact with patients is an essential component of prelicensure nursing education. All other health professions require supervised clinical experiences, and nursing should be no exception. In addition, the National Council for State Boards of Nursing and the American Organization of Nurse Executives both strongly support the need for clinical experience in prelicensure education.

We anticipate there will be no fiscal impact as a result of this bill, and we have received support or statements of neutrality from several stakeholders. There is no known opposition.

The Board would be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding SB 40.