

HB 3096 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 3/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Adds nursing technician as staff that may be considered in establishing hospital staff nursing plans. Defines "nursing technician." Exempts rural critical access hospital from requirement to have two nursing staff in unit when patient is present.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2015, the Legislative Assembly passed Senate Bill 469 updating Oregon's nurse staffing laws, including requiring hospitals to establish hospital nurse staffing committees to develop and approve hospital nurse staffing plans. The measure provided factors for hospital nurse staffing committees to consider when developing nurse staffing plans and required the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to audit hospitals to determine compliance with staffing plan requirement. Since 2005, Oregon's nurse staffing laws have required all hospitals to have one registered nurse and on other nursing staff member to be on duty in a unit when a patient is present.

House Bill 3096 would add nursing technicians as staff that may be considered in establishing hospital staff nursing plans and would exempt critical access hospitals from the requirement to have two nursing staff in a unit when a patient is present.