

SB 969 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 4/12, 4/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Removes requirement that Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) certify as nursing assistant any qualified applicant. Allows OSBN to deny certificate or place nursing assistant on probation for specified reasons. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

REVENUE: No revenue impact

SENATE VOTE: Ayes, 26; Nays, 3; Excused, 1

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) regulates the practice of nursing in the state, including licensing or certifying registered nurses (RN), licensed practical nurses (LPN), clinical nurse specialists (APRN-CNS), certified registered nurse anesthetists (APRN-CRNA), nurse practitioners (APR-NP), certified nursing assistants (CNA), and certified medication aides (CMA). Oregon law currently allows OSBN to revoke or suspend the certificate of a nursing assistant for specified reasons, including conviction of a relevant crime, for fraud or misrepresentation in the application process, impairment, violating licensing regulations or rules, and unbecoming conduct.

Senate Bill 969 would clarify that, in addition to its exist authority to revoke or suspend nursing assistant certificates, OSBN may deny an application for certification or place a nursing assistant on probation for specified reasons.