

**HB 2627 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Rep. Levy B

**House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care**

---

**Action Date:** 03/06/23

**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

**Vote:** 11-0-0-0

**Yeas:** 11 - Bowman, Conrad, Dexter, Diehl, Goodwin, Javadi, Morgan, Nelson, Nosse, Pham H, Tran

**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Brian Nieubuurt, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 2/8, 3/6

---

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Increases physician assistant membership on Oregon Medical Board (OMB) from one to two. Decreases Doctor of Medicine membership from seven to six. Clarifies impact on current board membership and sunsets emeritus board membership on January 1, 2024. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Role of physician assistants in health care system
- Increase in number of licensed physician assistants since first added to Oregon Medical Board membership in 2015

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Restores total OMB membership to 14 members. Reduces required number of members with degree in Doctor of Medicine from seven to six. Reduces number of additional physician assistant members from two to one. Requires all physician assistant members to be licensed. Restores membership staggering requirement that no more than five terms end in a year. Clarifies impact on current board membership and sunsets emeritus board membership on January 1, 2024.

**BACKGROUND:**

The mission of the Oregon Medical Board (OMB) is to protect the health, safety, and well-being of Oregonians by regulating the practice of medicine. The OMB licenses medical doctors (MDs), doctors of osteopathic medicine (DOs) and podiatric medicine (DPMs), physician assistants (PAs), and acupuncturists. According to the Oregon Health Authority's (OHA) Health Care Workforce Reporting Program, in 2021, there were approximately 18,200 licensed medical doctors and 2,400 licensed physician assistants.

The OMB is comprised of 14 members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Oregon Senate. Ten members are physicians (seven MDs, two DOs, and one DPM). In 2015, Senate Bill 905 added a PA member to the OMB. In 2019, Senate Bill 61 added a third public member, bringing the public member representation in line with other health care professional boards.

House Bill 2627 A adds a physician assistant member to the Oregon Medical Board and balances the addition by reducing the number of doctor members.