



Oregon

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Board of Nursing

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Before the
Senate Committee on Health Care

Senate Bill 703

The Oregon State Board of Nursing wishes to submit informational testimony regarding Senate Bill 703. The purpose of the bill is to specify the examination taken by applicants for nursing assistant.

SB 703 specifies that the board use an examination developed by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) for nursing assistant applicants. The NCSBN developed the content of the National Nurse Aide Assessment Program (NNAAP) exam and makes it available to an independent testing service. The NCSBN does not own or administer the exam as it does with the national nurse licensure exam. The national test vendor, Credentia, assumes responsibility for the scheduling, administration, and delivery of the NNAAP through direct contracts with the states and territories that use the exam.

The OSBN contracts with an independent vendor to provide nursing assistant testing. The current vendor is Headmaster, LLC, and its contract will end in 2024. We are currently preparing to issue a request for proposals regarding the testing contract.

SB 703 also requires the nursing assistant exam to be offered in Spanish as well as English. Since the new contracting phase has not yet begun, we cannot predict what fiscal impact this would have on the board or on applicants.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding SB 703.