

HB 2554 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure enacts the interstate Social Work Licensure Compact (Compact) to allow social workers licensed in other states to practice in Oregon without obtaining a license through the State Board of Licensing Social Workers.

Detailed Summary

- Establishes purpose and definitions for Compact.
- Specifies obligations of state's participation in Compact.
- Establishes circumstances allowing a social worker licensed in a Compact state to temporarily practice in another compact state.
- Specifies disciplinary processes for Compact states.
- Requires state to submit specified data to Compact coordinating database.
- Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

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:

Interstate licensing compact establish formal, legal relationships between states that improve the portability of occupational licenses by lowering barriers for multi-state practice. Compacts establish uniform guidelines, standards, and procedures for regulatory agencies in compact member states. They are often overseen by interstate commissions, with member states typically appointing one or more delegates to the commission. According to The Council of State Governments (CSG), there are 15 health professions with available licensure compacts. Forty-nine states, including Oregon, have enacted at least one licensure compact.

House Bill 2554 enacts the interstate Social Work Licensure Compact in Oregon.