

HB 2143 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

Prepared By: Katie Hart, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure defines "five-needle protocol," requires the Oregon Medical Board (OMB) to establish a registry of individuals qualified to provide the protocol, and directs OMB to adopt rules establishing qualifications for registration. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

Detailed Summary

Requires OMB to establish a registry of individuals who are qualified to provide the five-needle protocol.

- Defines "five-needle protocol" as the standard five-needle treatment protocol stimulation intended to provide temporary relief from the symptoms of substance use disorder, mental health conditions, or trauma.
- Directs OMB to adopt rules to establish qualifications for registration, fees, application forms, best practice standards, and a schedule of violations and disciplinary actions.
- Clarifies that licensed acupuncturists may provide the five-needle protocol.

Becomes operative March 1, 2026.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The five-needle protocol was developed in the 1970s at Lincoln Hospital in the South Bronx, New York. The protocol adopted a method established by a neurosurgeon in Hong Kong that had been shown to reduce physical withdrawal symptoms from opium. Stimulating five "[points](#)" on the ear (Shen Men, sympathetic, liver, kidney, and lung), the protocol is used to reduce drug and alcohol withdrawal symptoms and treat other behavioral health issues.

House Bill 2143 A defines the "five needle protocol" and requires the Oregon Medical Board to establish a registry of individuals qualified to provide the protocol and adopt rules establishing qualifications for registration.