

SB 295 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Patterson

Senate Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 03/27/25

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

Vote: 4-1-0-0

Yeas: 4 - Campos, Hayden, Linthicum, Patterson

Nays: 1 - Reynolds

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Katie Hart, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/25, 3/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure repeals the sunset on the provision allowing pharmacists to test for and treat COVID-19.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Scope of practice.

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

The practice of pharmacy is regulated by the Oregon Board of Pharmacy consistent with Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) Chapter 689. In Oregon, pharmacists may verify dosage on medications prescribed by health care providers, prepare prescriptions according to prescriber instructions, determine whether a particular medication will interact with other medications used by the patient, verify that the patient is not at risk of adverse reactions caused by a prescription, educate patients about how and when to take or administer the prescription, advise patients about potential side effects of medication, and administer various vaccinations. ORS 689 does not permit pharmacists to diagnose medical conditions or prescribe treatment, except as allowed by Senate Bill 1506 (2024) for the treatment of SARS-CoV-2. The [2025 Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education Standards](#), which set standards for pharmacy education, including Oregon's pharmacy education programs, provide for diagnosing and prescribing within the training and scope of practice for pharmacists.

Until October 1, 2024, pharmacists in Oregon were permitted to test and treat SARS-CoV-2 under [federal authority](#). [Senate Bill 1506 \(2024\)](#) extended this permission in Oregon through June 30, 2026. Pharmacists in Oregon will no longer be able to test and treat SARS-CoV-2 once state authority expires.

Senate Bill 295A allows pharmacists to continue to test for and treat COVID-19.