

SB 476 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 03/27/25

Action: Do pass with amendments and requesting referral to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Engrossed.)

Vote: 3-2-0-0

Yeas: 3 - Campos, Patterson, Reynolds

Nays: 2 - Hayden, Linthicum

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Daniel Dietz, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/27, 3/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure makes changes to laws regulating the licensure of health care professionals to clarify processes for licensing international health care providers.

Detailed Summary:

Provisional Licensure for Internationally Trained Physicians

Provides for provisional licensure for internationally trained physicians who

- have graduated from a school of medicine with a degree substantially similar to a Doctor of Medicine (MD) or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO).
- have completed a substantially similar training program.
- have obtained certification from the Educational Council for Foreign Medical Graduates.
- have practiced medicine in another country for at least three years.
- have an employment offer at a clinical facility in Oregon that provides supervision.
- comply with board rules and be of good moral character.
- pay applicable fees.

Practice Requirements for Provisional Licensees

- Requires practice under supervision of a physician licensed under ORS 677.100.
- Limits practice to facilities with approved training programs, federally qualified health centers, or other approved clinical locations.

Pathway to Full Licensure

- Considers provisionally licensed physicians as fully licensed for credentialing and insurance billing purposes.
- Provides pathway to full licensure after 4 years of supervised practice and clinical assessment.

Reporting Requirements

- Requires the Oregon Medical Board to report on provisional licensure to the Legislative Assembly by February 1 in each odd-numbered year.
- Specifies that report include data on applications received, licenses issued/denied, participating employers, and disciplinary actions.

Professional Licensing Boards

- Requires licensure boards across professions, including but not limited to health care, to provide culturally responsive training approved by the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement.
- Mandates clear guidance on professional licensure pathways for internationally educated individuals.

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- Requires implementation by July 1, 2026.

Internationally Educated Workforce Reentry Grant Program

- Establishes, within the Department of Human Services, a program of grants to non-profits, post-secondary institutions, and employers to provide career guidance and support services to internationally educated workers in both health care and non-health care professions.
- Requires reporting on program implementation and identified barriers.
- Allocates \$10,000,000 from the General Fund for the 2025-2027 biennium.

Implementation Timeline

- Declares emergency, takes effect July 1, 2025.
- Makes professional licensing board requirements and reporting provisions operative January 1, 2026.
- Implements the provisional licensing system fully on January 1, 2027.
- Requires grant award process to begin by June 30, 2026.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Requirements for physicians trained in the United States and in other places.
- Opportunities for U.S. trained physicians.
- Provisions of the measure.

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

- Clarifies requirements for internationally trained physicians to practice in Oregon.
- Aligns provisions for internationally trained physicians with existing medical licensure requirements.
- Directs the Oregon Medical Board to develop necessary rules and processes through a phased implementation timeline.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon has 425,600 immigrant residents, or about 10 percent of the state's population, including approximately 17.5 percent of Oregon's STEM workers ([Oregon Department of Human Services \(ODHS\) Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement](#)).

For health care professions, requirements to practice in Oregon are established and regulated by various licensure board (e.g., Oregon State Board of Nursing, Oregon Medical Board, etc.). Licensure requirements may include satisfactory completion of a test and/or degree program. For immigrants and refugees who arrive in Oregon, ODHS provides access to job search and workforce training.

Senate Bill 476 A allows provisional licenses for internationally trained physicians with specified requirements, including supervision, and directs the Oregon Department of Human Services to administer grants to programs that support international workers to access different professions.

Analysis prepared by Aleya García Rivas, LPRO Graduate Intern