

**HB 2538 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans**

---

**Prepared By:** Beverly Anderson, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 3/11, 3/27

---

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

The measure requires the Oregon Medical Board to adopt rules requiring a physician or a physician associate, complete at least two hours every six years of continuing education on suicide risk assessment, treatment, and management.

Detailed Summary

- Describes continuing education requirements in ORS 676.860; includes lethal means counseling as defined the Board.
- Requires the Board to require physician or physician associates to report on their training.
- Requires the Board to document the completion of the continuing education; requires removing personally identifiable information; requires the Board to report data to the Oregon Health Authority as described in ORS 676.860.
- Requires the Board to approve continuing education opportunities to meet the requirements of this Act.
- Applies to licenses issued or renewed on or after the effective date.

Fiscal impact: TBD

Revenue impact: TBD

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Concerns about veteran suicide rates
- Questions regarding clarification on lethal means counseling
- Questions about current trainings are being offered

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Senate Bill 48 (2017) recommended that the health and behavioral health workforce in Oregon have training related to suicide prevention. House Bill 2315 (2021) required training for suicide risk assessment, treatment, or management for specific behavioral health workforces. According to the Oregon Health Authority, over 80 percent of people who die by suicide have been seen in a physical health care setting in the prior year.