



Chuck Burley  
State Representative  
House District 54

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Contact: Jessica Burley  
Chief of Staff  
541-408-7919

#### BURLEY ANNOUNCES MEDICAL BOARD PROGRESS ON EMERITUS LICENSES

Bend, OR- State Representative Chuck Burley (R-Bend) announced today that the Oregon Board of Medical Examiners has approved a proposal for streamlining the application process for volunteer emeritus physicians, muting the need for legislation that would require them to do so.

Burley worked closely with former medical director of the Volunteers in Medicine Clinic of the Cascades, Dr. Ron Carver, to introduce legislation modeled after a South Carolina limited volunteer license passed in 1992. The Board's recent vote to adopt changes that make the process more expeditious and less costly for retired physicians is a positive step towards recognizing the need for additional health care providers in Oregon.

"We are excited to hear that the Board has taken these positive steps without legislative action," Burley said. "These changes will alleviate some of Oregon's health care demand while freeing up the legislature to tackle other important issues. The consensus on this proposal is very encouraging."

The Board specifically adopted changes that eliminate the requirement for extensive certification documents and reduced the number of years required for employment verifications. Instead, the application would require certified copies of core licensing documents from state boards where physicians were licensed before coming to Oregon. It also eliminates the \$375 application fee.

"These changes resolve almost all of my concerns about the roadblocks to volunteer licensure in our State," Carver said of the new standards. "I appreciate this action by the Board, and feel that it will significantly assist in the recruitment of out of state retired physicians to volunteer to meet the increasing needs of the uninsured in Oregon."

“I applaud the efforts of Kathleen Haley and the other board members for their willingness to work with Dr. Carver to implement these very appropriate changes,” Burley added.

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