

Senate Bill 974

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Prohibits Department of Education from performing certain actions related to development or use of assessment system unless certain conditions are met.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to student assessment systems; and declaring an emergency.

3 Whereas there has been insufficient legislative involvement or oversight in the selection of
4 student assessments mandated by the State of Oregon; and

5 Whereas statewide student assessments must comply with the requirements of state and federal
6 law; and

7 Whereas statewide student assessments must not take away from instructional time by requiring
8 excessive time commitments and must not impede the ability of school districts to select student
9 assessments that are instructionally useful or that are responsive to the instructional needs of in-
10 dividual school districts; and

11 Whereas the effectiveness of the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium may be questionable
12 amid concerns that meetings are not public, teachers' organizations are not fully involved and
13 formative assessments are not given a high enough priority; now, therefore,

14 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

15 **SECTION 1. (1) Except as provided by subsection (2) of this section, the Department of**
16 **Education may not sign a memorandum of understanding, participate or agree to participate**
17 **in a consortium or partnership or enter into any other agreement with any other state for**
18 **the purposes of developing or using an assessment system that measures the academic**
19 **standards of students in kindergarten through grade 12.**

20 **(2) The department may sign a memorandum of understanding, participate or agree to**
21 **participate in a consortium or partnership or enter into any other agreement with any other**
22 **state to develop or use an assessment system that measures the academic standards of**
23 **students in kindergarten through grade 12 if the assessment system:**

24 **(a) Is limited to assessments that are required under state or federal law for purposes**
25 **of accountability;**

26 **(b) Reduces costs associated with state-mandated assessments;**

27 **(c) Reduces the time required for state-mandated assessments; and**

28 **(d) Has been specifically approved by the Legislative Assembly and the Governor.**

29 **SECTION 2. This 2011 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
30 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2011 Act takes effect**
31 **on its passage.**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

