

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**CARRIER:**

Senate Committee on Education

REVENUE: No revenue impact**FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued****Action:****Vote:****Yeas:****Nays:****Exc.:****Prepared By:** Gretchen Engbring, Administrator**Meeting Dates:** 5/14, 5/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Provides that school drills and instruction on safety threats include lockdown procedures. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Lockdown drills currently not required by law
- Many high schools not practicing lockdown drills
- Value of practicing lockdown and other safety drills and preparing for emergencies
- Amendments address that not all schools in coastal zones are in tsunami hazard zones
- Amendments expand language to include other common terminology used for safety drills, including lockdown, lockout, shelter in place, and evacuation
- Amendments address concern that some public meetings related to school safety may disclose information that could put students at risk

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

-4 amendments (proposed) specify that tsunami drills and instruction be undertaken in schools in a tsunami hazard zone, rather than a coastal zone. Specify that drills and instruction on safety threats include lockdown as well as lockout, shelter in place and evacuation procedures. Expand drills and instruction to include students up to grade 12. Revise ORS 192.660 to allow a governing body of a public body to hold an executive session to consider matters relating to school safety or a plan that responds to safety threats made toward a school.

BACKGROUND: ORS 336.071, established by House Bill 2789 (2013), controls school safety and drilling procedures. It requires all schools to, “instruct and drill students on emergency procedures so that the students can respond to an emergency without confusion or panic.” The statutes list the types of emergency scenario responses that must be drilled, and how often schools are required to conduct drills during the school year.