

SB 282 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Oregon Department of Education (ODE), in cooperation with Oregon Health Authority (OHA), to conduct a study on the appropriate health standards to govern students' use of technology. Establishes requirements for study. Directs ODE to adopt guidelines on the use of technology. Establishes requirements for guidelines. Directs ODE to develop materials to inform parents on the hazards of excessive use of technology and to make materials available to students, employees, and parents in public and private schools. Directs ODE to collect, store, and use the minimal amount of student data necessary to implement programs. Directs ODE to develop guidelines for schools to implement the same practices. Authorizes ODE to adopt rules. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon public schools serve approximately 581,000 students in 197 school districts. Oregon law requires school districts to adopt policies for the use of personal electronic devices in schools. The policy must provide that students may be allowed to use personal electronic devices that support academic activities and independent communications. Unless otherwise specifically prohibited by the policy, students may not be denied the opportunity to use a personal electronic device that supports academic activities and independent communications. If a school district implements a curriculum that uses technology, the district school board shall adopt a policy that provides that students may be allowed, but are not required, to use their own personal electronic devices for the curriculum. Under Oregon law, school districts may prohibit the use of technology during regular school hours or during school events if the communications are not related to academic activities, such as social media or entertainment. Senate Bill 282 requires ODE to conduct a study and adopt guidelines on use of technology by students in school.