

SB 801 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Sub-Referral To: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Meeting Dates: 3/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Permits school districts and public charter schools to provide a firearm safety and accident prevention class to first-grade students. Permits class to be at least 30 minutes and offered each year. Requires a teacher, administrator, law enforcement officer, or first responder to teach the class. Establishes requirements for curriculum. Requires class to be nonpolitical. Prohibits use or possession of real firearm or live ammunition during the class. Provides written notification of class to parents. Establishes notice requirements. Permits parents to opt child out of participating in class. Requires class to occur during recess to accommodate opting-out children. Requires students who attend class to be tested on curriculum. Requires schools to provide students with gun safety material. Establishes requirements for material. 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:

-2 Requires firearm safety and accident prevention class to be taught by a law enforcement officer who is certified to provide firearm instruction.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Health Authority reports that an average of one Oregon resident dies from a firearm injury each day. Firearm fatalities occur due to suicide, homicide, legal intervention, unintentional shootings, and undetermined intent shooting. Suicide and homicide are the leading reasons for firearm deaths. Current law does not require public elementary or secondary students to receive training on gun safety. Senate Bill 801 permits school districts to offer gun safety programs to first graders. The program must meet state standards.