HB 2902 A   STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Student Success

Prepared By:	Lisa Gezelter, LPRO Analyst
Meeting Dates:	5/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires each school district to report annually on the number of times students were removed from classrooms because another student was acting in a manner that would threaten or injure a person or school property. Requires that report be available at school district's main office and on district website by September 1. Applies to 2019-2020 school year, and requires first reports to be available no later than September 1, 2020. Amends language related to school board policy on reporting of incidents to include identifying number and type of injuries sustained by employees from students. Requires Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to conduct study to investigate options for sharing best practices related to quiet rooms, positive behavioral management, restorative justice, behavioral supports, and other methods. Requires that reports be submitted to Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2020. Repeals reporting requirements on December 31, 2020. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2019.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

House bill 2756 A (2013) prohibited public education programs from purchasing, building, or possessing seclusion cells. It required removing seclusion cells from classrooms and school premises by September 1, 2013. With the removal of seclusion cells and limitations on physical restraint in schools, teachers and administrators have been removing all students from classrooms until the student in crisis calms down. This process is known as a "room clear" or "classroom clear."

House Bill 2902 A requires that each school district report annually the number of incidents students were removed during room clears. It also requires the Oregon Department of Education conduct a study to investigate options for sharing best practices.