

HB 4140 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Prepared By: Lisa Gezelter, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to develop a form by August 1, 2021 for public education programs to use when a student has been diagnosed with a concussion or other brain injury. Requires that the form describe academic accommodations that a public education program may provide for students diagnosed with brain injuries, and requires that accommodations be nonmedical. Requires that ODE make the form available for use by educators, other program employees, students, parents, and guardians. Allows the State Board of Education to adopt rules necessary for implementation. Requires that ODE ensure compliance by August 1, 2021.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill 348 (2009) passed the Oregon Legislative Assembly in response to sports-related concussion injuries as a result of inappropriate treatment and diagnosis. It requires coaches be trained annually to recognize the signs and symptoms of a concussion, along with seeking proper medical treatment. It also requires that students not participate in athletic events if they exhibit the signs and symptoms consistent with a concussion or have been diagnosed with one. The training does not extend to academic accommodations, or teaching staff working with students post-concussion.

House Bill 4140 requires the Oregon Department of Education to develop a form for public education programs, so that when students are diagnosed with a concussion or brain injury the form will describe the academic accommodations that are available.