

HB 2052 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

Prepared By: Lisa Gezelter, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/2, 3/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Defines Native American items of cultural significance. Defines public school events. Requires school districts to allow students participating in high school graduation ceremonies and other school events to wear Native American items of cultural significance. Does not prevent school districts from prohibiting an item or object that would cause a disruption or replace a cap or gown. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Experiences of Native American students
- Graduation ceremonies

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon is home to nine federally recognized tribes, as well as Native American communities in urban areas. The Oregon Department of Education's most recent annual report shows that for the 2019-2020 school year, there were 7, 010 American Indian/Alaska Native students enrolled in Oregon's schools. House Bill 2052 requires schools and districts to allow these students to wear traditional items at school events.