



Implementation of Senate Bill 155 (2019)

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IMPACT OF SENATE BILL 155 ON TSPC

- Passage of Senate Bill 155 (2019) had the following impacts upon TSPC investigations:
 - Allowed for TSPC to raise licensure fees to fund the hiring of additional investigation staff
 - Modified the state definition for the term “Sexual Conduct”
 - Mandates that, unless for ‘Good Cause’, TSPC investigations of Sexual Conduct be completed within 90 calendar days of the date which TSPC receives the initial complaint
 - ‘Good Cause’ defined in OAR 584-020-005(7)
 - Mandates that school districts verify with TSPC that new hires are not currently under investigation for sexual conduct, nor do they have a founded report of such conduct

TSPC RESPONSES TO SENATE BILL 155

- TSPC coordinated efforts with the Oregon Department of Education and DHS
- TSPC added a full-time investigator and additional administrative staff
- Since January 1, 2020, TSPC has held several 'Special Session' Commission meetings to address sexual conduct investigations within the 90 Day timeline required by law
- TSPC has built a tool within our online eLicensure System which enables appropriate school district personnel to complete the required sexual conduct verification for new hires

TSPC DATA ON SEXUAL CONDUCT CASES

January 1, 2020 - Present

IMPACTS OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- Within 3 months of the January 1, 2020, effective date for Senate Bill 155, schools and school districts began shutting down due to COVID-19
- Investigation numbers from 2020 indicate TSPC experienced an approximate 20% drop in the total number of complaints submitted to TSPC for investigation
- As a result, TSPC does not yet have a true understanding of how Senate Bill 155 will impact TSPC investigations when schools are operating normally

2020 - 2021 TSPC DATA

- To date, TSPC has opened 35 educator sexual conduct investigations since January 1, 2020.
- TSPC has completed 51% of the educator sexual conduct investigations since January 1, 2020.
 - TSPC has charged the educator for violations of TSPC Rules in 28% of completed cases
 - TSPC has substantiated 3 investigations of educator sexual conduct
 - TSPC has been unable to substantiate educator sexual conduct in 83% of completed investigations

DELAYS FOR 'GOOD CAUSE'

- Oregon Revised Statute 339.390(1)(c) provides that TSPC may extend our investigation timeline beyond 90 days for 'Good Cause'.
- The TSPC Commission defines 'Good Cause' in OAR 584-020-005(7) as existing when circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the Commission delay the completion of a TSPC investigation.
 - The most common examples of 'Good Cause' delays are due to Law Enforcement investigations and Criminal Court proceedings.
- To date, 54% of TSPC investigations into educator sexual conduct have been delayed for 'Good Cause'.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME

Are there any questions?