

SB 782 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Action Date: 03/29/21

Action: Do pass with amendments and requesting referral to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Engrossed.)

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Dembrow, Gelser, Gorsek, Robinson, Thomsen

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 3/24, 3/29

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to establish and administer pilot program for mental health screenings to students in grades 9 through 12. Establishes lottery selection process if more than 10 districts apply to participate in pilot program. Establishes allowable partnerships. Establishes program and reporting requirements. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2021.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Need for mental health screenings
- Prevalence of mental health conditions among high school students
- Benefits of screenings

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Establishes lottery selection process if more than 10 districts apply to participate in pilot program. Expands allowable partnerships to include health care providers or other entities. Modifies reporting requirements.

BACKGROUND:

The Student Success Act, passed in 2019, required school districts to address students' mental and behavioral health needs as part of their spending plan for those funds. Senate Bill 782 A requires the Oregon Department of Education to establish a pilot program for universal mental health screenings in grades 9 through 12.