

HB 4124 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

Prepared By: Lisa Gezelter, LPRO Analyst

Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires the Oregon Department of Education to conduct a survey of certain assessments administered by school districts. Establishes survey requirements. Requires ODE to develop recommendations and best practices for school districts related to the use and development of assessments. Allows ODE to establish work group. Establishes reporting requirements. Requires State Board of Education and ODE to review standards for disclosure and transfer of student records, identify barriers, consider communications plan, and if necessary, amend rules to ensure that educational institutions and substitute care programs receive relevant information in a timely manner. Establishes related reporting requirements.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Replaces the measure. Requires Department of Education (ODE) to survey academic assessments administered by school districts. Excepts the Youth Corrections Education Program, Juvenile Detention Education Program, long term care and treatment facilities, and hospital education programs. Prescribes survey requirements and exceptions. Requires ODE to establish work group and to develop recommendations and best practices for school districts. Establishes reporting requirements. Requires the State Board of Education and ODE to review standards for disclosure and transfer of student education records; identify barriers or difficulties experienced by educational institutions, substitute care programs, or detention facilities; consider a communications plan; and if necessary amend rules to ensure the timely transfer of complete records. Requires ODE to convene a work group of stakeholders.

BACKGROUND:

Federal law establishes a requirement that states assess students annually in grades three through eight and once in high school in both mathematics and English language arts, and that states assess students periodically in science and social studies. In addition, local districts and individual teachers give their own assessments in order to determine students' academic progress throughout the year. House Bill 4124 requires the Oregon Department of Education to survey districts, establish best practices related to district-level assessments, and make recommendations regarding the use of assessments.

Legislative committees have received complaints that educational records are not transferred among educational institutions in a timely or effective manner. House Bill 4124 requires the timely transfer of complete educational records in certain circumstances.