

SB 1583 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Prepared By: Lisa Gezelter, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/3, 2/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to ensure that standardized summative assessments are administered to the minimum extent allowed by federal law. Requires ODE to apply annually to the U.S. Department of Education for a waiver of state assessment requirements. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Effects of assessments on students and teachers
- Number of assessments given in Eugene 4J and other districts around the state
- Federal requirements

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

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. The U.S. Department of Education allows states to allow students and families to opt out of assessments but requires a 95 percent participation rate. Senate Bill 1583 requires the Oregon Department of Education to administer assessments only at the minimum level required by federal law, and to apply annually for a waiver of federal testing requirements.