



OREGONIANS FOR
LIBERTY *IN* EDUCATION

We oppose SB 1578. While there does need to be a better path of redress when the district fails to meet needs of families and students. This bill removes local control and centralizes authority to the “Superintendent of Public Instruction,” which is the Director of the ODE, Colt Gill, currently.

We are concerned about the illusive power given “if a school district or an education service district is found in violation of safety, discrimination and welfare laws, the department may immediately take any of the following actions:

- (A) Issue technical guidance;
 - (B) Issue a corrective action plan;
 - (C) Issue a penalty authorized under law in relation to the violation;
 - (D) Withhold State School Fund moneys; or
 - (E) Take any other action prescribed by the board by rule.
- (b) Nothing in this subsection prohibits the Superintendent of Public Instruction from taking any action authorized by ORS 327.103 or 334.217.”

The word “safety” is not clearly defined in the bill and can give overarching power to ODE. Local school districts must be autonomous and be able to make decisions reflective of their communities.

Natalee Maxfield
President
Oregonians for Liberty in Education