

## **HB 2618 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

### **House Committee On Education**

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**Meeting Dates:** 1/30

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#### **WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Requires Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to identify methodology for determining appropriate number of students to be assigned to school-based speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists, and physical therapists. Requires ODE to report to the legislature by September 15, 2023. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2023.

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

##### **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

-1 Replaces "caseload" with "workload."

##### **BACKGROUND:**

Past bills to limit caseloads include HB 3263 (2017) and HB 2985 (2019), which would have required the State Board of Education to adopt rules allowing occupational therapists (OTs) to supervise a team of occupational therapy assistants (OTAs) to provide services to children with individualized education plans (IEPs) and limiting the workloads of OTs and OTAs providing such services.

Caseload is the number of cases or students assigned to an employee, while workload is a measurement of the amount of work required to successfully manage assigned cases with consideration for unique supports and services each child requires.

HB 2618 requires ODE to identify a methodology for determining the appropriate caseloads of school-based speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists, and physical therapists, and to report its findings to the legislature by September 15, 2023. The proposed amendment replaces "caseload" with "workload."