

SB 992 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 3/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires local education providers to record student coursework on transcripts with specific information, including which courses a student took and whether the student received modified credit. Establishes definition and requirements of modified credit. Requires public education providers to offer students completing a modified course the opportunity to demonstrate that the student achieved the mastery necessary to be awarded a standard credit. Requires transcripts to be amended if student demonstrates sufficient mastery for standard credit. Prohibits transcripts from indicating type of diploma student is pursuing prior to award of diploma. Requires local education providers to change a transcript if a student earns a standard diploma after having earned a modified or extended diploma. Requires education providers to provide specific information and obtain a signed acknowledgement to students who have modified credit or who have enrolled in a modified course. Requires administrator approval prior to a student being enrolled in a course for modified credit in certain situations. Establishes review and documentation requirements for administrators. Establishes requirements for administrators who find systemic barriers to student achievement, including developing a plan, requesting technical assistance, presenting the plan to the district board, and sending a copy to the Oregon Department of Education (ODE). Repeals provisions relating to alternative certificate and enacts provisions relating to certificate of attendance. Establishes requirements for issuing certificate of attendance. Requires reporting on whether or not students who withdraw from school prior to graduating have a disability and establishes reporting requirements. Becomes operative July 1, 2024. Allows students who began ninth grade prior to July 1, 2020 to be awarded an alternative certificate if student satisfies requirements prior to July 1, 2024.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

State law establishes three types of diplomas: a regular high school diploma, a modified diploma, and an extended diploma. Additionally, current law allows students who meet specific requirements to earn an alternative certificate instead of a diploma. In order to earn a modified or extended diploma, students must meet specific eligibility requirements. ORS 329.451 establishes the eligibility requirements for students earning modified or extended diplomas. To earn a modified diploma, students must have a demonstrated inability to meet the full set of academic content standards for a high school diploma with reasonable modifications and accommodations. Students must also have a documented history of an inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant barriers or have a documented history of a medical condition that creates a barrier to achievement. To earn an extended diploma, students must complete 12 credits and have a documented history of an inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant learning and instructional barriers, have a medical condition that creates a barrier to achievement, or have a change in the ability to participate in grade-level activities as a result of a serious illness or injury that occurred after grade eight.

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Senate Bill 992 modifies statutory provisions relating to modified diplomas and changes the alternative certificate to a certificate of attendance.

PRELIMINARY