

HB 4137 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 2/20, 2/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure exempts students who have completed International Baccalaureate programs from some statutory diploma requirements.

Minimal fiscal impact.

No revenue impact.

House vote: Passed. Ayes, 54; Excused, 1; Excused for Business of the House, 5

Detailed Summary

Requires the State Board of Education to adopt rules allowing International Baccalaureate (IB) program completers to satisfy credit requirements in Oregon law or administrative rule. Establishes the minimum requirements for credits to be waived, including that the student has satisfied all requirements of the IB program as well as any other requirements for IB graduates established in administrative rule. Allows flexibility on who may grade assessments or examinations solely for the purpose of satisfying graduation requirements. Requires school districts and public charter schools making their own graduation requirements to attempt not to discourage participation in IB programs.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Workload of IB students
- Efforts to expand IB to more diverse groups of students
- Similar legislation in other states

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 1968, the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO), located in Geneva, Switzerland, established an educational program to provide the children of diplomats with a common curriculum that would be recognized as these students moved across international borders. Today, the IB program has expanded to the general student population and provides a curriculum based on international standards to more than 4,000 schools worldwide. Currently, students who are working toward an IB diploma must also complete all state and local diploma requirements.