

SB 1583-AMR7  
(LC 281)  
2/23/24 (HRL/ps)

Requested by Senator KNOPP

**PROPOSED MINORITY REPORT AMENDMENTS TO  
A-ENGROSSED SENATE BILL 1583**

1 On page 1 of the printed A-engrossed bill, line 2, after the first semicolon  
2 delete the rest of the line.

3 After line 3, insert:

4 “Whereas the Legislative Assembly finds that access to educational and  
5 library materials in Oregon schools has a direct and long-lasting  
6 generational impact that requires in-depth study and broad understanding;  
7 and

8 “Whereas the Legislative Assembly finds that discrimination has no place  
9 in the State of Oregon or in the selection of educational materials for stu-  
10 dent curriculum and books for school libraries; and

11 “Whereas the Legislative Assembly finds that the fundamental right to  
12 freedom of speech is a cornerstone of a healthy society and state; and

13 “Whereas Oregon appropriated \$10.2 billion for distribution through the  
14 State School Fund for the 2023-2025 biennium, and the average operating  
15 expenditure in the 2021-2022 school year was \$16,574 per student; and

16 “Whereas 75 percent of eighth graders in Oregon could not reach reading  
17 proficiency targets in 2022; and

18 “Whereas the Legislative Assembly finds that no one has a more vested  
19 interest in the quality of their youth’s education and curriculum than the  
20 parents within each local community where they live; and

21 “Whereas the United States Supreme Court has recognized the importance

1 of balancing free speech and the rights of parents and students regarding the  
2 curriculum within students' classrooms; and

3 "Whereas the Director of the Department of Education has publicly stated  
4 a desire to issue 'sanctions' against local school districts and a willingness  
5 to 'take over school districts' if necessary; and

6 "Whereas the community of Canby, Oregon, exhibited the best of Oregon  
7 by engaging local community stakeholders throughout the review process of  
8 educational materials by empowering students, parents, teachers, librarians,  
9 community leaders and others in the balancing of their students' rights to  
10 both free speech and their adolescence; and

11 "Whereas the Legislative Assembly finds that books do exist that are in-  
12 appropriate and that should not be in our schools because they contain  
13 graphic violence, are sexually explicit, contain vulgar language, lack literary  
14 merit or educational value or are not age appropriate; and

15 "Whereas A-engrossed Senate Bill 1583 has enormous unknown impacts  
16 and implications that demand thoughtful and complete consideration from a  
17 wide variety of diverse viewpoints and expert opinions before embarking on  
18 a course potentially riddled with negative consequences; and

19 "Whereas the curricula and libraries of the public schools of this state  
20 should be as diverse as the people who make up the State of Oregon and  
21 should be filled with age-appropriate materials; and

22 "Whereas a task force should be established to study access to educa-  
23 tional and library materials in Oregon public schools and to ensure the  
24 preservation of local control of our 197 school boards in the review of edu-  
25 cational and library materials for enrolled children and youth; now, there-  
26 fore,".

27 Delete lines 5 through 25 and delete pages 2 and 3 and insert:

28 "**SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Accessibility to Public School**  
29 **Materials is established.**

30 **"(2) The task force consists of 17 members appointed as follows:**

1       **“(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint one member from the**  
2 **majority party of the Senate;**

3       **“(b) The Senate Minority Leader shall appoint one member from a**  
4 **minority party of the Senate;**

5       **“(c) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one**  
6 **member from the majority party of the House of Representatives;**

7       **“(d) The House Minority Leader shall appoint one member from a**  
8 **minority party of the House of Representatives; and**

9       **“(e) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of**  
10 **Representatives, in consultation with the Senate Minority Leader and**  
11 **the House Minority Leader, shall jointly appoint 13 members as fol-**  
12 **lows:**

13       **“(A) One member who is a representative from a statewide associ-**  
14 **ation that represents school boards;**

15       **“(B) One member who is a representative of the Department of**  
16 **Education;**

17       **“(C) Six members who are parents of children enrolled in the public**  
18 **schools of this state, with one member representing each congress-**  
19 **sional district of this state;**

20       **“(D) One member who is a representative of a statewide organiza-**  
21 **tion related to school libraries;**

22       **“(E) One member who is a representative of a statewide association**  
23 **that primarily represents licensed educators;**

24       **“(F) One member who is a representative of a statewide coalition**  
25 **that represents school administrators;**

26       **“(G) One member who is a representative of a statewide organiza-**  
27 **tion that represents education service districts; and**

28       **“(H) One member who is a representative of public charter schools.**

29       **“(3) The task force shall:**

30       **“(a) Review the provisions of A-engrossed Senate Bill 1583;**

1       **“(b) Identify recommendations for potential legislation to be intro-**  
2 **duced for the 2025 regular legislative session;**

3       **“(c) Identify constitutional constraints for the regulation of cur-**  
4 **ricula or library books that contain graphic violence, are sexually ex-**  
5 **PLICIT, contain vulgar language or lack literary merit or educational**  
6 **value;**

7       **“(d) Identify and make recommendations for ways to better estab-**  
8 **lish standards for age-appropriate curriculum; and**

9       **“(e) Study legal barriers and litigation that have arisen for local**  
10 **school boards in relation to applying age-appropriate standards for**  
11 **school libraries.**

12       **“(4) For the purpose of performing the duties specified in subsection**  
13 **(3) of this section, the task force shall invite the provision of public**  
14 **testimony.**

15       **“(5) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes**  
16 **a quorum for the transaction of business.**

17       **“(6) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a**  
18 **majority of the voting members of the task force.**

19       **“(7) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as**  
20 **chairperson.**

21       **“(8) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority**  
22 **shall make an appointment to become immediately effective.**

23       **“(9) The task force shall meet at least four times before December**  
24 **15, 2024. Meetings shall be at times and places specified by the call of**  
25 **the chairperson or of a majority of the voting members of the task**  
26 **force.**

27       **“(10) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation**  
28 **of the task force.**

29       **“(11) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided**  
30 **by ORS 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to**

1 an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to education  
2 no later than December 31, 2024.

3 “(12) The Legislative Policy and Research Director shall provide  
4 staff support to the task force.

5 “(13) Members of the Legislative Assembly appointed to the task  
6 force are nonvoting members of the task force and may act in an ad-  
7 visory capacity only.

8 “(14) Members of the task force who are not members of the Leg-  
9 islative Assembly are not entitled to compensation or reimbursement  
10 for expenses and serve as volunteers on the task force.

11 “(15) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111,  
12 are directed to assist the task force in the performance of the duties  
13 of the task force and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to  
14 confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the  
15 task force consider necessary to perform their duties.

16 “SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2024 Act is repealed on January 2,  
17 2025.

18 “SECTION 3. This 2024 Act being necessary for the immediate  
19 preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is  
20 declared to exist, and this 2024 Act takes effect on its passage.”.

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