

SB 1109 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 4/2, 4/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to conduct an audit of kindergarten assessments administered in all public schools in Oregon. It requires ODE to create and submit a report on the audit to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2026.

Fiscal impact: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

Revenue impact: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure.

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 The amendment replaces the measure. The amendment modifies requirements enacted in Senate Bill 1502 (2024) relating to recordings of education governing bodies' meetings. It applies the provisions only to boards of directors of school districts and education service districts, boards of education for community college districts, and boards of trustees of public universities. The measure applies to meetings occurring after January 1, 2025, and declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.

BACKGROUND:

According to the Oregon Department of Education, the Kindergarten Assessment was administered each fall to entering kindergarten student to assess three areas of learning: early literacy, early math and interpersonal/self-regulation. In the 2019-2020 and the 2020-2021 school years, the Oregon Kindergarten Assessment was suspended due to the COVID 19 pandemic. In following school year, the ODE started examining concerns with bias and implementation of the Kindergarten Assessment

In 2023, the State Board of Education amended rule OAR 581-022-2130 to move to a redesigned kindergarten assessment model called [the Early Learning Transition Check In](#). As of the fall of 2024, the program completed a third pilot in which 50 schools participated with new training materials and data collection tools.