

HB 2670 A -A3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 5/5, 5/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

This measure modifies the definition of brain injury to align with ORS 410.750. The modified definition includes damage to the brain from both an internal or external source.

Minimal fiscal impact.

No revenue impact.

House vote: Passed. Ayes, 55; Nays, 1.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Needs of students with traumatic brain injuries
- Problems with current definition
- Difference between traumatic brain injury and acquired brain injury (not caused by trauma)
- Federal definition and definitions in use in other states

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-A3 The amendment places internal brain injuries under the category "other health impairment," removes the tie to the definition of brain injury in ORS 410.750, and removes the inclusion of internal brain injuries from the low-incidence disability statute.

BACKGROUND:

The [Oregon Department of Education](#) defines traumatic brain injury as “an acquired injury to the brain caused by an external force,” and does not include “brain injuries that are congenital or degenerative, or brain injuries induced by birth trauma.” The State Board has adopted eligibility rules in [OAR 581-015-2175](#). [ODE's most recent annual report](#) indicates that in the 2023-2024 school year, 326 students received special education services due to a traumatic brain injury.

Senate Bill 420 (2023) required the Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide service coordination, resource navigation, advocacy, and options counseling to individuals with brain injuries.