

SB 805 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**Carrier:** Rep. McIntire**House Committee On Education****Action Date:** 04/30/25**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)**Vote:** 6-0-2-0**Yeas:** 6 - Dobson, Harbick, Hudson, McIntire, Neron, Wright**Exc:** 2 - Nguyen H, Ruiz**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact**Revenue:** No revenue impact**Prepared By:** Chris Bechtel, LPRO Fellow**Meeting Dates:** 4/16, 4/30**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

The measure reduces the time within which the Teacher Standards and Practice Commission (TSPC) can close a complaint if no attempts were made to resolve it at the local level, from twelve months to six months. It applies to complaints filed with TSPC on or after January 1, 2026. It removes the requirement for TSPC to render a decision in the next meeting after the hearing. It allows TSPC to impose a civil penalty of not more than \$1,000 for violations of ORS 342.175 and credits the proceeds from the penalty to TSPC's account in the State Treasury. The measure allows TSPC to adopt rules to impose the civil penalty. It provides an operative date for section 3 of July 1, 2026, and allows TSPC to create rules prior to the operative date.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- TSPC's ability to reopen a case after the deadline
- Teacher licensing requirements

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

The amendment removes the requirement for TSPC to render a decision in the next meeting after the hearing. It allows TSPC to impose a civil penalty of not more than \$1,000 for violations of ORS 342.175 and credits the proceeds from the penalty to TSPC's account in the State Treasury. The amendment allows TSPC to adopt rules to impose the civil penalty. It provides an operative date for section 3 of July 1, 2026, and allows TSPC to create rules prior to the operative date.

BACKGROUND:

The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) was established in 1965 to ensure that Oregon schools have access to well-trained, effective, and accountable licensed educational professionals. Currently, when a person files a complaint other than an allegation of sexual conduct, TSPC may require that the complainant attempt to resolve the complaint at the local level before it begins an investigation. Under current law, if the commission does not receive verification within twelve months from when it issued the notification, the commission does not have a duty to investigate.

Current law provides TSPC disciplinary power to licensees and applicants. ORS 342.175 outlines crimes, negligence, or any gross unfitness that subjects an applicant or licensee to discipline. TSPC may suspend or revoke a license, discipline a licensee, or suspend or revoke any person's ability to apply for a commission license. In the case of certain crimes, TSPC must revoke the license. Current law also outlines a reinstatement process for applicants to overturn their commission. Under current law, TSPC does not have the ability to impose civil penalties.