

A-Engrossed House Bill 2992

Ordered by the House April 10
Including House Amendments dated April 10

Sponsored by Representatives BOWMAN, LEVY B, MUNOZ, NERON; Representatives FRAGALA, HUDSON, ISADORE, JAVADI, LIVELY, MCINTIRE, NGUYEN H, OWENS, SMITH G, WATANABE, WRIGHT, Senators CAMPOS, GORSEK, MANNING JR, PATTERSON, PROZANSKI, REYNOLDS (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: Directs OHA to have a program to provide eye exams and glasses to certain students. (Flesch Readability Score: 61.8).

[Digest: Directs ODE and OHA to have a program to provide eye exams and glasses to certain students. (Flesch Readability Score: 65.1).]

Directs *[the Department of Education and the Oregon Health Authority to jointly]* **the Oregon Health Authority, in collaboration with the Department of Education and the Oregon Board of Optometry, to** establish and implement a program that provides eye examinations, *[and]* prescription eyeglasses **and related services** to students from low-income families.

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to student vision; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:

(a) **"Eye examination" has the meaning given that term in ORS 336.211.**

(b) **"Qualified community organization" means an organization that, during nonschool hours or nonschool days, serves students who attend a qualified school.**

(c) **"Qualified school" means a school that has a high rate of students experiencing poverty, as identified by the Department of Education.**

(d) **"Qualified site" means the site of a qualified school or a qualified community organization.**

(e) **"Qualified student" means a student who:**

(A) **Attends a qualified school or is served by a qualified community organization; and**

(B) **Has been identified as requiring an eye examination or as requiring assistance of the powers or range of vision of the eye through a vision screening as defined in ORS 336.211.**

(2)(a) **The Oregon Health Authority, in collaboration with the Department of Education and the Oregon Board of Optometry, shall establish and implement a program that provides the following to a qualified student at no charge to the qualified student or to the parent or legal guardian of the qualified student:**

(A) **An eye examination;**

(B) **New prescription eyeglasses;**

(C) **Replacements for lost or broken prescription eyeglasses, as needed, for the duration of the prescription; and**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

(D) Follow-up services identified as the result of a vision screening as defined in ORS 336.211.

(b) Any services provided under paragraph (a) of this subsection are separate from services provided under ORS 336.211 and do not qualify for reimbursement under ORS 336.211.

(3) The Oregon Health Authority, in consultation with the Department of Education and the Oregon Board of Optometry, shall adopt rules for the program that:

(a) Prescribe the process by which a nonprofit organization can apply for approval under this section to:

(A) Provide the services and equipment described in subsection (2) of this section to qualified students for whom affirmative or implied medical consent has been granted; and

(B) Receive funding for the services and equipment described in subsection (2) of this section.

(b) Establish a process by which funding for the program is granted to an approved nonprofit organization to fund the services and equipment described in subsection (2) of this section. The rules must require the active seeking and prioritization of federal moneys for funding the program, including seeking:

(A) Reimbursement for medical assistance as defined in ORS 414.025;

(B) Any necessary approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to carry out the program; and

(C) Any available funding through the Children's Health Insurance Program under Title XXI of the Social Security Act.

(c) Allow for an eye examination that does not include dilation of the eye if:

(A) All other requirements for a comprehensive eye examination under the Oregon Health Plan are met; and

(B) The parents or legal guardians of the qualified student are notified that:

(i) The eye examination will not include dilation of the eye; and

(ii) Other vision services may be available to the parents or legal guardians if the parents or legal guardians prefer an eye examination that includes dilation of the eye.

(d) Require a qualified community organization to align, to the greatest extent practicable, the processes and communications of the qualified community organization with the processes and communications of a qualified school attended by qualified students served by the qualified community organization.

(4) Within 12 months of receiving funding under this section, an approved nonprofit organization shall provide to the Oregon Health Authority the following information to assist the authority in monitoring the impact of the program on meeting the vision care needs of qualified students:

(a) The number of qualified sites served, including the number of qualified schools, qualified community organizations and school districts.

(b) The number of qualified students served, including the number who received an eye examination and the number who received prescription eyeglasses.

(c) The number of eye examinations provided.

(d) The number of prescription eyeglasses provided.

SECTION 2. (1) The Eye Examination and Correction Fund is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Eye Examination and Correction Fund shall be credited to the fund.

1 (2) Moneys in the Eye Examination and Correction Fund are continuously appropriated
2 to the Oregon Health Authority for expenses incurred by the program described in section
3 1 of this 2025 Act.

4 (3) The Oregon Health Authority, on behalf of the State of Oregon, may solicit and accept
5 gifts, grants and donations from public and private sources for the Eye Examination and
6 Correction Fund. Moneys received under this subsection shall be deposited into the Eye Ex-
7 amination and Correction Fund.

8 SECTION 3. The Oregon Health Authority must complete rulemaking required under
9 section 1 of this 2025 Act in a time and manner to ensure that:

10 (1) Decisions related to the recipients and amounts of grants awarded under section 1
11 of this 2025 Act are made no later than April 1, 2026; and

12 (2) Funding is available to approved nonprofit organizations no later than May 1, 2026,
13 to provide the services and equipment described in section 1 (2) of this 2025 Act beginning
14 with the 2026-2027 school year.

15 SECTION 4. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
16 ated to the Oregon Health Authority, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, out of the
17 General Fund, the amount of \$11,000,000, which may be deposited into the Eye Examination
18 and Correction Fund.

19 SECTION 5. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
20 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect
21 on its passage.
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