## House Bill 3268

Sponsored by Representative EVANS

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## **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 **as introduced.** The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: Requires board members from the school district in which the State Capitol is located to represent zones. (Flesch Readability Score: 60.1).

Provides that directors of the district school board of the Salem-Keizer School District must be nominated and elected by zone.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

- Relating to the selection of directors for the school district in which the State Capitol is located; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 332.122 and 332.124.
- 4 Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:
  - SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2025 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 332.
- 6 <u>SECTION 2.</u> (1) As used in this section, "Salem-Keizer School District" means the school district in which the State Capitol is located.
  - (2) Notwithstanding ORS 332.128, the directors of the district school board of the Salem-Keizer School District must be nominated by zone.
  - (3) Notwithstanding ORS 332.126, the directors of the district school board of the Salem-Keizer School District must be elected by zone.
  - **SECTION 3.** ORS 332.122 is amended to read:
  - 332.122. (1) Except as provided in ORS 255.400 to 255.424, in common school districts and union high school districts the directors may be nominated in one of the following methods or a combination thereof:
    - (a) At large by position number by the electors of the district.
    - (b) By zone by electors of zones, if zoning is approved by the electors under ORS 332.128 or if zoning is required under section 2 of this 2025 Act.
    - (2) A person shall be nominated as a candidate for director by filing a petition for nomination or a declaration of candidacy under ORS 255.235.
      - (3) If a candidate is nominated by petition, the petition:
      - (a) If the candidate is nominated from a zone, must be signed by the electors of the zone.
      - (b) If the candidate is nominated at large, must be signed by the electors of the district.
  - (4) Except as provided in ORS 255.400 to 255.424, a candidate for school director must be an elector registered in the district. If the district is zoned and the candidate seeks nomination from a zone, the candidate also must be a resident of that zone.
    - SECTION 4. ORS 332.124 is amended to read:
  - 332.124. (1) Except as provided in ORS 255.400 to 255.424, all candidates shall be elected at large in the district unless the district school board provides for election from zones under ORS 332.126 or the candidates must be elected by zones as provided by section 2 of this 2025 Act.

**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.

- (2) In a district in which directors are elected from zones:
- (a) The candidate for the office of director in each zone who receives the plurality of the votes shall be elected.
- (b) At the expiration of each director's term of office, a successor shall be elected from the same zone.
- (3) Except as provided in ORS 255.400 to 255.424, in the event that no person from the same zone is nominated under ORS 332.122 as a candidate for the vacant office of director by the school district election filing deadline or is elected as a write-in candidate at the subsequent school district election, or in the event that an office of director becomes vacant at midterm, the district school board shall fill the vacancy as follows:
- (a) The board shall advertise the vacancy for a 20-day period in an attempt to find an eligible resident from the same zone to fill the vacancy. If one or more eligible residents declare interest in the vacant office, the school district board shall appoint one of the eligible residents to fill the vacant office until June 30 following the next regular school district election.
- (b) If, after 20 days of advertising the vacancy, no eligible resident from the same zone declares interest in the vacant office, the school district board shall appoint one of the eligible residents from the district at large to fill the vacant office until June 30 following the next regular school district election.
- (c) Offices filled in the manner described in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection shall become vacant on June 30 following the next regular school district election. Nomination of candidates for vacant offices shall occur as provided under ORS 332.122.