

Senate Bill 948

Sponsored by Senator FREDERICK (at the request of Oregon Public Education Network)

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: The Act would give school boards power to allow play-based learning in preschool through grade 5. (Flesch Readability Score: 74.2).

Authorizes district school boards to provide for play-based learning during the instructional time of each regular school day for all students who are enrolled in prekindergarten through grade five in the school district.

Directs the Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Early Learning and Care and the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission, to provide professional development opportunities in the pedagogy of play-based learning to child care providers and teachers providing instruction in prekindergarten through grade five in this state.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to play-based education.

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

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

5 (a) **"Free play" means unstructured, voluntary and child-initiated activities that are**
6 **performed by a child for self-amusement and have behavioral, social and psychomotor re-**
7 **wards. "Free play" may be fostered to promote activities that are child-directed, joyful and**
8 **spontaneous.**

9 (b) **"Guided play" means learning experiences that combine the child-directed nature of**
10 **free play with a focus on learning outcomes and adult guidance.**

11 (c) **"Instructional time" means time during which students are engaged in regularly**
12 **scheduled instruction, learning activities or learning assessments that are designed to meet**
13 **the Common Curriculum Goals and academic content standards adopted by the State Board**
14 **of Education under ORS 329.045.**

15 (d) **"Play-based learning" means a pedagogical philosophy that emphasizes free or guided**
16 **play in promoting learning and uses developmentally appropriate strategies that can be in-**
17 **tegrated into existing learning standards. "Play-based learning" does not mean time spent in**
18 **recess or in a physical education class.**

19 (e) **"Recess" means a period of at least 20 minutes during the regular school day for**
20 **students to engage in physical exercise.**

21 (2) **Each district school board may provide for play-based learning during the instruc-**
22 **tional time of each regular school day for all students who are enrolled in prekindergarten**
23 **through grade five in the school district.**

24 (3) **The Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Early Learning**
25 **and Care and the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission, shall provide professional**
26 **development opportunities in the pedagogy of play-based learning to child care providers and**
27 **teachers providing instruction in prekindergarten through grade five in this state.**

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.

