

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Beyer, Kruse, Prozanski, Walker, Burdick
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Miranda Plummer, Counsel
Meeting Dates:	3/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) and Department of Education (DOE), in two separate statutory chapters, to require fingerprints of persons who work in, or contract with, public, private, or charter schools that have direct, unsupervised contact with children. Repeals Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 181.539, which authorizes the TSPC and DOE to require fingerprints.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: In the 2005 session, the legislature passed HB 2157, which was a major overhaul of the statutes relating to criminal records checks. As a result of HB 2157, most agencies that conduct criminal records checks have their own statute located in the ORS chapter that relates to that agency. Legislative Counsel was not able to do this for the DOE and the TSPC because they were intertwined in ORS 181.539. House Bill 2047 was pre-session filed by the House Interim Education Committee. It repeals ORS 181.539, so the provisions may be placed in the chapters appropriate to the DOE and the TSPC.

HB 2047 slightly changes the language describing who is subject to fingerprinting. Presently, ORS 181.539 empowers DOE and TSPC to fingerprint persons renewing administrator, teacher, and personnel credentials after they lapse for three years or more. It also specifies school nurse applicants as subject to fingerprinting. HB 2047 alters the language of the succeeding original subsections to cover those classes of people, so long as they have direct, unsupervised contact with children.

Neither the Department of Education nor the Teachers Standards and Practices Commission object to this bill.