

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	8 - 1 - 0
Yeas:	Clem, Dallum, Greenlick, Komp, Krummel, Lim, Whisnant, Buckley
Nays:	Roblan
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Derrick Olsen, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/13, 4/12, 4/19 (all Subcommittee on Education Innovation), 4/30

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Modifies certain educational class requirements from years to credits. Allows students to graduate in less than four years or advance to next grade level if student meets credit requirements for classes. Applies to students who meet requirements on or after effective date of Act. Modifies requirement for children who must attend public schools. Applies to 2007-2008 school year. Declares an emergency effective July 1, 2007.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Students who seek to graduate early
- Concern over potential dropouts
- Local graduation requirements and level of flexibility on early graduation varies by school district
- Need to clarify local school district requirements and student request needed for early graduation
- Credits vs. years
- Existing law

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: The amendment clarifies that local school district requirements, in addition to State Board of Education requirements, must be met, and clarifies that early graduation or early grade advancement would only be at the request of the student, with parent/guardian consent (except for emancipated students or students 18 years of age or older).

BACKGROUND: HB 2606-A requires school districts to award a high school diploma when the student has completed the required number of credits for graduation and completed the requirements set by the State Board of Education. HB 2606-A states that children who have received a high school diploma may not be required to attend public full-time schools. HB 2606-A also allows a student to advance to the next grade level if a student meets the requirements for the current grade level. HB 2606-A also changes the nomenclature from years to credits.

Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 329.447 currently states that "At or before grade 12, a diploma shall be conferred upon all students completing the requirements established by the State Board of Education and the school districts." Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 581-022-1130 8(a) currently requires 12 years of schooling, "except when the school district adopts policies for early or delayed completion of all state and school district credit and performance requirements." OAR 581-022-1130 also states that "Each district school board with jurisdiction over high school programs shall award diplomas to all students who fulfill all state requirements as described in sections (1)-(8) of this rule and all local school district requirements as described in district school board policies."

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.