House Bill 3142

Sponsored by Representative FLORES; Representatives BOQUIST, CAMERON, DALLUM, THATCHER, WHISNANT

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.

Directs school districts to conduct exit interview with any high school student who is contemplating dropping out of school. Requires parent or guardian and student to sign form prior to dropping out.

Directs Department of Education to develop informational handout and form to be used by school districts.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2007.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to students who drop out of school; creating new provisions; amending ORS 339.257; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) A school district shall conduct an exit interview with any high school student who is contemplating becoming a school dropout, as defined in ORS 339.505. The school district shall provide information to the student regarding the consequences of dropping out of school.

- (2) Prior to a student becoming a school dropout, the student and a parent or guardian of the student must sign a form that states that they understand the consequences of dropping out of school and that the student has the permission of the parent or guardian to drop out of school.
- (3) The Department of Education shall develop a uniform informational handout and a form that may be used by school districts to meet the requirement of this section.

SECTION 2. ORS 339.257 is amended to read:

339.257. (1) The principal or a designee of the principal of a secondary school shall provide documentation of enrollment status on a form provided by the Department of Transportation to any student at least 15 years of age and under 18 years of age who is properly enrolled in the school and who needs the documentation in order to apply for issuance or reinstatement of driving privileges. The form shall be available at the administrative offices of the school district for a student who applies for issuance or reinstatement of driving privileges during school holidays.

(2) A school district board [may] **shall** establish a policy authorizing the superintendent of the school district or the board to notify the department of the withdrawal from school of a student who is at least 15 years of age and under 18 years of age. For purposes of this subsection, a student shall be considered to have withdrawn from school after more than 10 consecutive school days of unexcused absences or 15 school days total of unexcused absences during a single semester. A policy adopted under this subsection shall include a provision allowing a student to appeal a decision to notify the department.

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(3) The governing body of a private school may establish a policy authorizing a representative
of the school to notify the department of a student's withdrawal. Terms and conditions of the policy
shall be the same as those described in subsection (2) of this section for a school district board.
SECTION 3. Section 1 of this 2007 Act and the amendments to ORS 339.257 by section 2
of this 2007 Act first apply to the 2007-2008 school year.

SECTION 4. This 2007 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2007 Act takes effect July 1, 2007.