

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Rescind the Subsequent Referral to the Committee on Ways and Means
Vote:	9 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Clem, Greenlick, Huffman, Komp, Krummel, Lim, Roblan, Whisnant, Buckley
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Dana Richardson, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/5, 2/6, 2/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Removes contractor from process of granting waivers for specific groups of students. Specifies State Board of Education may adopt rules to waive assessment for specific groups of students. Permits school district to request waiver from Department of Education (ODE) that allows district to administer assessment from contractor other than state-selected contractor. Requires ODE to grant waiver under certain circumstances. Permits waiver for 2008-2009 school year only. Declares an emergency; effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Permissiveness of waiver
- Permitting schools without an existing contract to receive a waiver
- Funding for alternate test
- Effect on pending Request For Proposal submissions
- Oregon Department of Education discretion to grant waiver

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Removes contractor from process of granting waivers for specific groups of students. Permits school district to request waiver from Department of Education (ODE) that allows district to administer assessment from contractor other than state-selected contractor. Requires ODE to grant waiver under certain circumstances. Permits waiver for 2008-2009 school year only.

BACKGROUND: House Bill 2263 (2007) required ODE to contract with a non-profit entity to administer a nationally-normed assessment to all public school students in grade 10. Several school districts are using a vendor to administer this type of assessment within their districts. Currently, districts using a vendor other than the one chosen by ODE to administer the statewide contract would not be permitted to continue use of the same test. House Bill 3600-A would allow school districts to continue to use a vendor other than the one selected to administer the statewide contract for the 2008-2009 academic year only.