

# Senate Bill 1068

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## 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**.

Requires school districts to offer half-day kindergarten. Allows school districts and public charter schools to offer supplemental kindergarten. Allows school districts and public charter schools to charge tuition for supplemental kindergarten. Provides tuition exception for certain students. Allows parent or guardian to appeal tuition charge if payment of tuition is severe hardship. Applies to 2007-2008, 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 school years. Sunsets on June 30, 2010. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to kindergarten; and declaring an emergency.

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

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

5 (a) **"Half-day kindergarten" means instructional hours provided at the kindergarten level**  
6 **that meet the minimum number of instructional hours required for kindergarten by rule of**  
7 **the State Board of Education and that meet other standards and rules of the board.**

8 (b) **"Supplemental kindergarten" means instructional hours provided at the kindergarten**  
9 **level that exceed the minimum number of instructional hours required for kindergarten by**  
10 **rule of the State Board of Education and that meet other standards and rules of the board.**

11 (2) **School districts shall offer half-day kindergarten and may offer supplemental**  
12 **kindergarten in one or more of the schools in a district.**

13 (3) **Public charter schools may offer half-day kindergarten or supplemental kindergarten.**

14 (4)(a) **A school district may not charge tuition for half-day kindergarten attended by a**  
15 **student who resides within the school district.**

16 (b) **A public charter school may not charge tuition for half-day kindergarten attended by**  
17 **any student.**

18 (5) **Notwithstanding ORS 336.095, 339.115 (1), 339.141 or 339.155 and except as provided in**  
19 **subsections (6) and (7) of this section, a school district or public charter school may charge**  
20 **tuition for supplemental kindergarten.**

21 (6) **If a school district or public charter school charges tuition for supplemental**  
22 **kindergarten, the school district or public charter school may not charge tuition for a stu-**  
23 **dent who is:**

24 (a) **A member of a low-income family as defined in ORS 339.147; or**

25 (b) **A ward of a juvenile court or the Department of Human Services.**

26 (7)(a) **A parent or guardian of a student not described in subsection (6) of this section**  
27 **who believes that payment of all or part of the tuition is a severe hardship may request that**

**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.

1 the district school board or public charter school waive in whole or in part the payment of  
2 tuition. The district school board or public charter school shall waive the tuition in whole  
3 or in part upon a finding of severe hardship.

4 (b) A school district or public charter school that charges tuition for supplemental  
5 kindergarten shall adopt policies establishing factors that constitute a severe hardship under  
6 this subsection.

7 SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2008 Act applies to the 2007-2008, 2008-2009 and 2009-2010  
8 school years.

9 SECTION 3. Section 1 of this 2008 Act is repealed on June 30, 2010.

10 SECTION 4. The collection before the effective date of this 2008 Act of any tuition or  
11 other fees by a school district or public charter school for supplemental kindergarten, as  
12 defined in section 1 of this 2008 Act, that was invalid solely because there was no Oregon  
13 statutory authority for the collection of the tuition or fees, is validated and approved.

14 SECTION 5. This 2008 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public  
15 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2008 Act takes effect  
16 on its passage.

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