

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Bonamici, Kruse, Metsger, Morse, Hass

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Dana Richardson, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/9, 4/15

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires school districts to ensure that coaches receive annual training on recognizing symptoms of a concussion and how to seek proper medical treatment. Charges State Board of Education with establishing related rules. Prohibits coaches from allowing school athletic team member from participating in athletic events or training under certain circumstances. Declares emergency; effective July 1, 2009.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Availability of concussion statistics
- Proper fitting and technique
- Cost of impact studies
- Current replacement and re-conditioning practices
- Amount of training needed
- Appropriate time after injury to return to participation

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces the measure except for emergency clause.

BACKGROUND: This measure was requested by the Brain Injury Association of Oregon. In 2008, five high school athletes died nationally from head injuries during high school football games or practice according to the National Center for Catastrophic Injury Research. Research indicates that a repeat concussion that occurs before the brain recovers from the first can slow recovery or increase the likelihood of having long-term problems. In rare cases, repeat concussions can result in brain swelling, permanent brain damage, and even death.