

2009 Regular Legislative Session
FISCAL ANALYSIS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION
Prepared by the Oregon Legislative Fiscal Office

MEASURE NUMBER: HB 2586

STATUS: Original

SUBJECT: Updating the continuous improvement plans of local districts; awarding grants for school library programs

GOVERNMENT UNIT AFFECTED: Department of Education, local education agencies

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DATE: April 22, 2009

	<u>2009-2011</u>	<u>2011-2013</u>
EXPENDITURES: See analysis		

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2010

LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANDATE: This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

ANALYSIS: House Bill 2586 requires a school district to include in its continuous improvement plan goals to implement a strong library program in addition to goals to implement the current components of their plans. The measure allows the Department of Education (ODE) to grant funds to school districts, education service districts, the Youth Corrections Education Program and the Juvenile Detention Education Program for activities that relate to increases in student achievement in school library programs.

Currently, school districts develop their continuous improvement plans by identifying improvement goals based on a comprehensive self-evaluation that includes an assessment of needs, district performance and district practices. School districts also develop an action plan and budget outline addressing the strategies and activities that the district will implement to achieve the improvement goals that are identified in the self-evaluation. School districts are held accountable by law for making progress toward each of their continuous improvement plan goals. Adding another goal to the content that is currently required in the continuous improvement plans will have an indeterminate fiscal impact to school districts. The school districts contacted by the Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) report that staff efforts devoted to the continuous improvement plans is a significant workload as is. Adding a new goal to the already required components of the plans could potentially result in the need for additional resources. Several of the school districts contacted by LFO reported that they currently have limited resources available to devote to their school library programs; some schools are relying almost entirely on volunteer efforts. The measure adds library programs to the activities for which school districts can use School Improvement Fund grants.

The fiscal impact of this measure to the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) is minimal. ODE reports that it would require a minimal amount of existing staff time to review the additional component of the continuous improvement plans and provide technical assistance to the school districts as they develop goals to implement strong school library programs in their continuous improvement plans.