

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	8 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Barnhart, Berger, Freeman, Garrett, Holvey, Wingard, Hunt, Olson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Jim Stembridge, Administrator and Victoria Cox, Committee Staff
Meeting Dates:	6/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Modifies terminology in education statutes from “mental retardation” to “intellectual disability” for persons with intellectual disability. Requires individualized education programs to use new terminology. Authorizes Legislative Counsel to substitute “intellectual disability” wherever “retardation” or “mental retardation” occurs in ORS chapters 326 to 353. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Experience of students and parents with mental retardation label
- Impact of label on educational outcomes
- Stigma attached to label in light of current slang usage
- “Spread the word to end the word” campaign

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: On October 6, 2010, President Obama signed Rosa’s Law, which changed references in federal law from “mental retardation” to “intellectual disability” and references to “a mentally retarded individual” to “an individual with an intellectual disability.” Rosa’s Law replicates a law adopted in the State of Maryland after the family of Rosa Marcellino, a nine year-old girl with Down syndrome, worked with state legislators to pass the measure.

Senate Bill 3 modifies education statutes to replace the term “mental retardation” with “intellectual disability” and prohibits individualized education programs from using the words “retardation” or “mental retardation” to refer to a child with an intellectual disability.