

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass
<b>Vote:</b>	5 - 0 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Bonamici, George, Morse, Shields, Hass
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Linda Lindholm, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	3/15

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Changes term “second language” to “world language” for purposes of elementary and secondary education requirements. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2011.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Consistency and contemporary terminology
- Confusion with second language learners
- Instruction and content standards in education requirements
- Encouragement and support of world/foreign language instruction

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** The ability to communicate with others and to interact with cultural sensitivity is widely considered key to preparing students for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Oregon education requirements include second languages.

ORS 329.007 defines “second languages” as any foreign language or American Sign Language. Senate Bill 23 makes the terminology and definition more consistent with federal and other state definitions that use the term “world languages” to mean American Sign Language and languages other than English.