

**REVENUE: No revenue impact**

**FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued**

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**Action:** Do Pass  
**Vote:** 5 - 0 - 0  
**Yeas:** Bonamici, George, Morse, Shields, Hass  
**Nays:** 0  
**Exc.:** 0  
**Prepared By:** Linda Lindholm, Administrator  
**Meeting Dates:** 3/29

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Eliminates alternative methods by which students may satisfy mathematics or English requirements for high school diploma. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2011.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Confusion caused by vague language
- Student receipt of credits for proficiency

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

**BACKGROUND:** During the 2005 Legislative session, ORS 329.451 was amended to permit school districts to award a high school diploma to a student who “has met or exceeded the academic content standards for mathematics or English at a level established by the board, as demonstrated on Oregon assessments; or displays proficiency in mathematics or English at a level established by the board.” Confusion resulted for school districts regarding the statutory language and the overlying Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR 581-022-1131). For example, if a student passes the state assessment test (OAKS), under current law, a passing score would satisfy the state graduation requirements (4 credits), removing upper level course requirements for students who chose to exercise that option.

The original intent of the alternate methods by which students may satisfy mathematics or English requirements for a high school diploma is addressed in Senate Bill 24. Specific guidelines are included in current administrative rules. Alternative methods for satisfying the graduation credits requirements are deleted to clarify the language and intent.