

**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>	Beyer, Knopp, Kruse, Roblan, Hass
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Richard Donovan, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	4/4, 4/9

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Allows private school to discipline or terminate school employee according to standards and policies of private school. Requires private school to comply with specified reporting requirements. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2013.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Desire of Catholic schools to hold employees to higher standards than currently available under law
- Concern that public school termination process for employees may be too burdensome for private schools that are not otherwise equipped for administrative hearings, etc.
- Small change requested, amending only one section of existing law
- Record keeping and reporting requirements currently enacted not to be affected by measure; private schools will continue to have to comply with current record keeping standards under law. This specific concern addressed in formal letter received from the Office of Legislative Counsel

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

**BACKGROUND:** Senate Bill 821 stems from the specific concerns of the Oregon Catholic Conference and the Catholic Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon. The Catholic Church administers a number of private schools. The Catholic Church also has a much publicized history with sexual abuse. As a result of the large number of complaints of sexual misconduct by individuals employed by/associated with the Catholic Church, the Church would like to implement very strict codes of conduct for employees. They are concerned that current law, drafted with the public education system in mind, might be unnecessarily burdensome to private schools.