

**-FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

Seventy-Seventh Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2013 Regular Session  
Legislative Fiscal Office

**Measure: HB 2757  
CORRECTED**

***Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed  
Versions are Considered Official***

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Date: 05/14/2013

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**Measure Description:**

Directs Department of Education to ensure that statewide assessment system, or alternative to statewide assessment system, is available for students whose primary language is American Sign Language.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:**

Education Service Districts (ESD), Department of Education, School Districts

**Summary of Expenditure Impact:**

See Analysis.

**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:** This bill directs the Oregon Department of Education (ODE), to the extent practicable, to ensure that statewide assessment system, or alternative, is available for students whose primary mode of communication is American Sign Language (ASL). The bill would exempt ASL students from taking the reading assessment.

ODE now believes the provisions of this bill may cause Oregon to be in violation of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which could risk up to \$122 million Federal Funds under IDEA annually, representing a potential risk of \$244 million Federal Funds in the 2013-15 biennium. In addition to the loss of IDEA funds, ODE believes this bill may also result in the loss of all federal funds which would be \$1.2 billion for the 2013-15 biennium. ODE has recently approved sign language interpretation as an available accommodation for students during the statewide assessment system in the areas of mathematics, science, social studies and writing. In the assessment area of reading, this is not an approved accommodation for the statewide assessment because the assessment is measuring proficiency in the ability to read printed material in English.