

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:	Without Recommendation as to Passage and Be Referred to the Committee on Rules
Vote:	6 - 2 - 1
Yeas:	Gomberg, Huffman, Parrish, Sprenger, Whisnant, Gelser
Nays:	Gorsek, Reardon
Exc.:	Fagan
Prepared By:	Rick Berkobien, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/29

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Removes use of mascot that represents or is associated with a Native American tribe from definition of term “discrimination” if an agreement has been entered into between the entity using the mascot and the governing body of the federally recognized Native American tribe in Oregon that is closest to the entity using the mascot; and the agreement defines acceptable uses of the mascot. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Research on use of mascots
- Some images not fitting with Northwest tribes
- How rules will work if bill is passed
- Personal experiences of individuals affected by stereotypes

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Chapter 659 of the Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS), section 800 addresses prohibited forms of discrimination in education. ORS 659.850 defines discrimination as “any act that unreasonably differentiates treatment” on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, marital status, age, or disability, whether intentional or not.

In May of 2012, the Oregon State Board of Education adopted an administrative rule, OAR 581-021-0047, prohibiting public schools from using Native American mascots. Schools must comply by July 1, 2017 or risk funding consequences. The prohibition includes using team names: Redskins, Savages, Indians, Indianettes, Chiefs, Chieftains, and Braves. Schools are also prohibited from using any visual image or symbol that depicts Native American tribes. Public schools are allowed to continue using the team name “Warrior” if the image does not depict Native Americans.

6/3/2013 3:30:00 PM

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.