

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

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

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure
<b>Vote:</b>	3 - 2 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Beyer, Burdick, Rosenbaum
<b>Nays:</b>	Ferrioli, Starr
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Lori Brocker, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	5/29

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Modifies required documentation to be submitted to school administrator for opting out of immunizations. Changes “statement” to “document.” Specifies document must be signed by parent declining immunization for child and may include reason for declining. Specifies document must have signature from health care practitioner verifying parent reviewed information about risks and benefits of immunization or include certification verifying parent completed vaccine education module approved by Oregon Health Authority. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Impact of immunizations on public health
- Religious and philosophical reasons to decline immunizations
- Parental rights and responsibilities related to child’s health
- Religious exemption provisions related to immunizations
- Amendments
- Non-medical exemption rate in Oregon
- Options to satisfy documentation available for persons declining immunization on behalf of children

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

**BACKGROUND:** According to the Oregon Public Health Division, for the last decade, Oregon’s non-medical exemption to the school immunization rate for kindergartners has increased from less than 2 percent in 2001 to 5.8 percent in 2012. In some counties, the rate of non-medical exemption is as high as 12 percent. Oregon has the highest non-medical exemption rate for one or more immunizations in the United States, and some Oregon schools have an exemption rate as high as 70 percent.

Senate Bill 132A requires parents to sign a document declining immunizations on behalf of the child. The document *may* include reasoning for declining the immunizations, such as for religious or philosophical belief. The document *must* include a signature from a health care practitioner verifying that the parent has reviewed information about the risks and benefits of immunization *or* include certification verifying that the parent has completed an online educational video approved by the Oregon Health Authority.