

**Department of Education
Student Assessment System Report**

The Education Subcommittee recommends the Joint Committee on Ways and Means acknowledge receipt of a report on the Student Assessment System.

Federal and State law require the State to have a student assessment in place. For a number of, Oregon schools have used OAKS, an assessment tool tied to Oregon based standards. With the adoption of common core standards, the federal government provided resources for the development of assessment tools aligned to these newer standards for math and language arts. Through a process which included stakeholders, the State Board of Education in May selected the Smarter Balanced assessment from a variety of options. This new assessment is to be tested in the current school year in a number of districts, and then rolled out statewide in the next school year.

The current agency budget includes \$16 million total funds for assessments for the current biennium. The 2013 Legislature also appropriated \$4.6 million in a special purpose appropriation for this purpose which provides a total of \$20.6 million total funds for the 2013-15. The current cost estimate by the agency is \$20.4 million including \$1.3 million that is to be sent out to districts for formative and interim assessments in response to a budget note. The Subcommittee also recommended that \$4.4 million of the \$4.6 million special purpose appropriation be included in the budget reconciliation bill with instructions to the Department of Administrative Services to unschedule the funds until final negotiations with Smarter Balanced and the testing provider are completed.

The Education Subcommittee recommends approval of the request.