

Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2015 Regular Session
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
House Committee On Education

MEASURE: HB 2846 A

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 02/13/15

Action: Do Pass As Amended, Be Printed Engrossed, And Bill Be Referred To Ways And Means.

Meeting Dates: 02/06, 02/13

House

Yeas: 9 - Barreto, Doherty, Frederick, Hack, Wilson, Piluso, Reardon, Sprenger, McLain

Prepared By: Richard Donovan, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Provides that 15 minutes spent by students consuming breakfast is considered instructional time in certain circumstances. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Measure as representing a “Breakfast after the bell” program
- Ongoing current best practices involving students eating while doing work to start the school day
- Inability of some students to get to the school early to take advantage of nutrition programs
- Benefit of removing stigma associated with eating school food
- Potential cost, in number of days (7-10), that would have to be scheduled to make up for this time

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Changes “five minutes” to “15 minutes.”

BACKGROUND:

OAR 581-022-1620 mandates that schools offer a minimum number of hours of instruction time annually to students, based upon the grade level of the student: 405 hours for kindergarten; 810 hours for grades 1–3; 900 hours for grades 4–8; and, 990 hours for grades 9–12. ORS 327.535 controls school breakfast programs, including relevant integration with federal law.

House Bill 2846-A allows 15 minutes each morning while students consume breakfast to be counted as instructional time. Many other states—including but not limited to Colorado, Massachusetts, and Washington—have similar “breakfast after the bell” programs, either by law or rule.