

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

MEASURE: HB 2713 A
CARRIER: Rep. Frederick

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 03/25/15

Action: Do Pass As Amended And Be Printed Engrossed.

Meeting Dates: 02/09, 03/16, 03/25

Vote:

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

Prepared By: Richard Donovan, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Secretary of State to conduct audit related to use of statewide standardized tests in public schools developed by multistate consortium. Provides that audit must address fiscal, administrative, and educational impacts of tests.

Requires Secretary of State to report audit results to interim committees no later than September 15, 2016. Declares emergency, effective on passage

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of standardized testing, concerns with standardized testing
- Standardized tests as disproportionately punishing to disadvantaged students and students from traditionally underserved segments of the population
- Concern with value of standardized testing
- Existing capability, expertise of Office of Secretary of State to manage audits

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon began to develop standards for public education with the publication of the *State Manual of the Course of Study for the Elementary Schools* in 1920. In the 1960s, school districts participated in the development of a statewide curriculum improvement plan and Common Curriculum Goals followed in the 1980s. As part of Oregon's Educational Act for the 21st Century (1991), content standards were first introduced at grades 3, 5, 8, and 10 and grade-level content standards were mandated by the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. Since 1991, the state has used the Oregon Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (OAKS) to determine student progress toward meeting standards.

The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in English language arts and mathematics were adopted by the State Board of Education in October of 2010. They meet the requirement for standards leading to college and career readiness required by Oregon's No Child Left Behind waiver granted in 2012. For the 2014-2015 school year, Oregon is moving to Smarter Balanced Assessments for English language arts and mathematics. OAKS will continue to be used to assess science and social science until common standards are developed for those content areas.

House Bill 2713-A requires the Office of the Secretary of State to conduct an audit related to the use of statewide standardized tests, and to report back to the Legislature no later than September 15, 2016.