

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

**MEASURE:** HB 2655 A  
**CARRIER:** Rep. Gorsek

**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact

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**Action Date:** 04/13/15

**Action:** Do Pass As Amended And Be Printed Engrossed.

**Meeting Dates:** 02/09, 03/16, 04/13

**Vote:**

Yeas: 7 - Barreto, Doherty, Frederick, Hack, McLain, Piluso, Wilson

Nays: 2 - Reardon, Sprenger

**Prepared By:** Richard Donovan, Committee Administrator

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Directs State Board of Education to adopt specified standards related to student education records. Provides that parents and adult students have right to excuse student from statewide standardized summative assessment and that school districts must provide notice of that right to parents at beginning of school year. Mandates school district or public charter school shall provide notice of opt-out option. Mandates supervised study time for excused students. Mandates notice of information about summative assessments, including dates of assessments, class time required for administration of assessments, and information relating to assessment results, be sent to parents and adult students at least 30 days prior to administration of assessments. Details Department of Education process in case of school performance report being negatively impacted by individuals being excused from summative assessments. Sunsets portions of measure relating to reason for excuse after six years. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Measure as “Bill of Rights” for parents regarding student testing
- Measure as addressing concerns behind validity of data, value of standardized testing
- Concern with potential effect on school report cards
- Academic time requirement for students choosing to opt out
- History of federal requirements regarding assessment, federal Department of Education waiver

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

Replaces measure.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in English language arts and mathematics were adopted by the State Board of Education in October, 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.

Since 1991, the state has used the Oregon Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (OAKS) to determine student progress toward meeting standards. For the 2014-2015 school year, Oregon moved to Smarter Balanced Assessments for English language arts and mathematics. In addition to the Smarter Balanced Assessment, students have multiple options (work samples, SAT, ACT) to demonstrate mastery of essential skills required to graduate. OAKS will continue to be used to assess science and social science until common standards are developed for those content areas.

House Bill 2655-A establishes a list of rights for students and parents regarding statewide standardized testing. It also expands the existing right students have to opt-out of statewide standardized assessments until July 1, 2021.