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

Fiscal:	Fiscal impact issued
Revenue:	No Revenue Impact
Action Date:	05/05/15
Action:	Do Pass The A-Eng Bill And Refer To Ways And Means By Prior
	Reference.
Meeting Dates:	04/28, 05/05
Vote:	
	Yeas: 6 - Beyer, Gelser, Hass, Knopp, Kruse, Roblan
	Exc: 1 - Baertschiger Jr
Prepared By:	Gretchen Engbring, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prohibits use of results of statewide summative assessment developed by multistate consortium to establish summative ratings of schools or to make summative evaluations of teachers or administrators. Directs Superintendent of Public Instruction to convene work group related to statewide summative assessments developed by state-led consortium. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Recently implemented Smarter Balanced assessments may not be accurate indicator of teacher's, administrator's, or school's performance
- Need for more "beta testing" before Smarter Balanced assessments are used for ratings
- Many technical problems with implementation of Smarter Balanced assessments still need to be addressed
- Preliminary feedback that Smarter Balanced assessments subsume significant amounts of instructional time
- Increased burden on technological and training resources (e.g., computers and keyboarding instruction)
- Other means of evaluation (e.g., designations) may still be used to appraise school performance
- Concern that summative assessments negatively affect students' psychological health and self-image

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Summative Assessments are tests or evaluations given periodically to determine, at a particular point in time, what students know. Summative assessments stand in contrast to formative assessments, which are given for diagnostic purposes. Since 1991, the state has used the Oregon Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (OAKS) to determine student progress toward standards appropriate to graduation. For the 2014-2015 school year, Oregon will move 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 2680-A prohibits using the results of statewide summative assessments from the 2014-2015 academic year for the purpose of rating schools, teachers, or administrators. This prohibition applies to the Smarter Balanced Assessment results for that period of time. The bill further directs the Superintendent of Public Instruction to convene a work group to determine how to implement the results of a statewide summative assessment and specifies the tasks the work group is to undertake.