

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

MEASURE: HB 2404 B
CARRIER: Sen. Kruse

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 05/21/15

Action: Do Pass With Amendments To The A-Eng Bill. (Printed B-Eng.)

Meeting Dates: 05/14, 05/21

Vote:

Yeas: 5 - Gelser, Hass, Knopp, Kruse, Roblan

Exc: 2 - Baertschiger Jr, Beyer

Prepared By: Gretchen Engbring, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Adjusts school food and beverage nutritional standards to comply with federal food and beverage nutritional standards. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Measure as intended to align state and federal standards
- Federal standards prohibiting artificially caffeinated beverages and requiring reduction of calories for some beverages, such as sport drinks and sodas
- Measure allows lunch or breakfast entrees to be sold individually, rather than as part of a reimbursable lunch or breakfast, if they satisfy applicable nutrition standards
- Measure adds nut butters, seeds, and seed butters to list of foods that are exempt from caps on calories from saturated fats
- Amendments clarify that standards apply only to students, not school personnel

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Clarify that nutritional standards explicitly apply to students, rather than teachers, administrators, or other school personnel.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) is responsible for managing the state and federal nutrition programs, including the federal Child Nutrition Program, that operate in Oregon schools. State standards for school nutrition can be found in ORS 336.423-441. ORS 336.423, created as a result of House Bill 2650 (2007), specifically defines nutrient standards, including calories and portion sizes, for foods sold at all kindergarten through grade 12 public schools in Oregon.

House Bill 2404-B aligns Oregon food snack standards to new federal snack standards. The changes include, but are not limited to, changes that: allow juices to be diluted with water; allow calorie-free flavored water up to 20 ounces; allow seeds, nuts, seed butters, and nut butters to be exempted from saturated fat prohibitions; and, prohibit foods and beverages containing caffeine from being sold in elementary and middle schools.