

# House Bill 2801

Sponsored by Representative GOMBERG

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Directs Department of Education to distribute moneys as strategic investment under Oregon Early Reading Program to nonprofit organizations that provide academically-aligned, evidence-based literacy programs through volunteer mentors who are 50 years of age or older to school districts for purpose of increasing delivery of reading assistance to students in kindergarten through third grade.  
Declares emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to early reading programs; amending ORS 327.810; and declaring an emergency.

**Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

**SECTION 1.** ORS 327.810 is amended to read:

327.810. (1) The Oregon Education Investment Board shall establish the Oregon Early Reading Program to:

(a) Improve the readiness of children preparing to enter into kindergarten; and

(b) Improve the reading proficiency of students by the time the students complete the third grade.

(2) To accomplish the purposes of the Oregon Early Reading Program, moneys shall be distributed for strategic investments that advance at least one of the following missions:

(a) Encouraging early reading and involving parents, child care providers and the community in ensuring that children have an early start at reading.

(b) Expanding the amount of time spent reading, adult support, the availability of reading materials, cultural relevance and the level of enjoyment that literacy brings.

(c) Providing differentiated instruction to assist students with reading in early grades.

(3) Strategic investment moneys distributed as provided by this section shall be as follows:

(a) To the Early Learning Council for the purposes of:

(A) Creating materials and curriculum that promote early literacy; and

(B) Distributing moneys to libraries, providers of early childhood services, nonprofit organizations, school districts and public schools to provide families and child care providers with the resources necessary to encourage reading at home or to expand access to libraries.

(b) To the Department of Education for the purposes of:

(A) Extending or expanding reading opportunities in public schools that meet criteria established by the board by providing adult support, programs offered during nonschool hours or increased access to technology; *[and]*

(B) Increasing the number of school districts that participate in a network in this state that is designed to support school districts in implementing high-quality reading instruction and protocols that identify, support and serve students who are at risk for not reading at grade level early and effectively[.]; **and**

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1       **(C) Distributing moneys to nonprofit organizations that provide academically-aligned,**  
2 **evidence-based literacy programs through volunteer mentors who are 50 years of age or older**  
3 **to school districts for the purpose of increasing the delivery of reading assistance to students**  
4 **in kindergarten through the third grade.**

5       (c) To the Oregon Education Investment Board to develop a statewide approach to early reading  
6 awareness.

7       (d) To the State Library to expand the Ready to Read program.

8       **SECTION 2.** ORS 327.810, as amended by section 6, chapter 660, Oregon Laws 2013, is amended  
9 to read:

10       327.810. (1) The State Board of Education shall establish the Oregon Early Reading Program to:

11       (a) Improve the readiness of children preparing to enter into kindergarten; and

12       (b) Improve the reading proficiency of students by the time the students complete the third  
13 grade.

14       (2) To accomplish the purposes of the Oregon Early Reading Program, moneys shall be distrib-  
15 uted for strategic investments that advance at least one of the following missions:

16       (a) Encouraging early reading and involving parents, child care providers and the community in  
17 ensuring that children have an early start at reading.

18       (b) Expanding the amount of time spent reading, adult support, the availability of reading ma-  
19 terials, cultural relevance and the level of enjoyment that literacy brings.

20       (c) Providing differentiated instruction to assist students with reading in early grades.

21       (3) Strategic investment moneys distributed as provided by this section shall be as follows:

22       (a) To the Early Learning Council for the purposes of:

23       (A) Creating materials and curriculum that promote early literacy; and

24       (B) Distributing moneys to libraries, providers of early childhood services, nonprofit organiza-  
25 tions, school districts and public schools to provide families and child care providers with the re-  
26 sources necessary to encourage reading at home or to expand access to libraries.

27       (b) To the Department of Education for the purposes of:

28       (A) Extending or expanding reading opportunities in public schools that meet criteria estab-  
29 lished by the board by providing adult support, programs offered during nonschool hours or in-  
30 creased access to technology; *[and]*

31       (B) Increasing the number of school districts that participate in a network in this state that is  
32 designed to support school districts in implementing high-quality reading instruction and protocols  
33 that identify, support and serve students who are at risk for not reading at grade level early and  
34 effectively[.]; **and**

35       **(C) Distributing moneys to nonprofit organizations that provide academically-aligned,**  
36 **evidence-based literacy programs through volunteer mentors who are 50 years of age or older**  
37 **to school districts for the purpose of increasing the delivery of reading assistance to students**  
38 **in kindergarten through the third grade.**

39       (c) To the State Board of Education to develop a statewide approach to early reading awareness.

40       (d) To the State Library to expand the Ready to Read program.

41       **SECTION 3.** **This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**  
42 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect**  
43 **on its passage.**