

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Fiscal: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date:

Action:

Meeting Dates:

Prepared By: Richard Donovan, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows chiropractic physicians and naturopathic physicians to provide release for athlete who sustained concussion or is suspected of sustaining concussion. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

There is an existing body of law around appropriate treatment of students who have sustained, or are suspected to have sustained, a concussion while participating in school or club sports. The main substantive laws are “Max’s Law” (ORS 336.485), passed by the 2009 Legislative Assembly, which requires public school districts to implement concussion training and management guidelines for student athletes, and “Jenna’s Law” (ORS 417.875) passed by the 2013 Legislative Assembly, which includes students participating at private schools as well as on club or non-school athletic teams, and also requires referees to assume responsibility for concussion evaluation during games. SB 521 (2015) made technical fixes to these laws.

Senate Bill 1535 would add chiropractic physicians and naturopathic physicians to the list of medical care professionals permitted to provide a release for an athlete who sustained concussion or is suspected of sustaining concussion.