

SB 354 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 3/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows parents or adult students to choose to excuse a student from taking statewide summative assessments by completing electronic or paper forms to be established by the Department of Education (ODE) and submitting the form to the school district. Requires school districts to accept electronic and paper forms. Requires ODE to establish a form for the use of parents and adult students to use in requesting to be excused from statewide assessments. Establishes requirements for the form. Requires ODE to consult with certain stakeholders about the form. Requires forms to apply to notices sent to parents and adult students on or after July 1, 2021. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

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

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND:

Federal law requires students in grades 3 through 9 and once in high school to take statewide summative assessments in English language arts and mathematics. Oregon is part of the Smarter Balanced consortium, along with 14 other states. Students in consortium states take assessments aligned to the Common Core State Standards. Assessments are delivered online and include questions that adapt to each student's performance.

House Bill 2655 (2015) became effective January 1, 2016. It established a Student Assessment Bill of Rights permitting parents or adult students to opt out of Oregon's summative assessments.