

SB 351 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 3/14, 3/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires the Secretary of State to conduct an audit related to the use of statewide summative assessments.

Requires the audit to gather information on the fiscal, administrative, and educational impacts of the assessments, including impacts on instructional time, curricula, educators' exercise of professional judgment, budgets, and administrative time and focus. Requires the Secretary of State to submit the audit report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction and to interim legislative committees by September 15, 2017. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Findings of 2016 audit
- Oregon's contract with the Smarter Balanced consortium
- Federal requirements
- Summative vs. formative assessments

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND:

In September, 2016 the Secretary of State completed an audit of the state's summative assessments. The report recommended that the Oregon Department of Education improve communication, foster consistent use of assessment results, and continue its commitment to improving test administration.