

SB 221 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Prepared By: Lisa Gezelter, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/30, 4/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Revises state law relating to teacher training programs and dyslexia. Adds provisions requiring teacher training programs to provide instruction on other reading difficulties as well as dyslexia. Requires educator preparation programs for early childhood education, elementary education, special education or reading to provide instruction on dyslexia and other reading difficulties. Removes provisions of state law requiring teacher preparation programs to follow the standards of an international dyslexia association. Allows educator preparation programs to phase in compliance with standards or rules adopted by the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission over three years. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Dyslexia education
- Meeting the needs of children with dyslexia
- Teacher preparation programs
- International Dyslexia Association

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Reinstates provisions of state law requiring teacher education programs' dyslexia education to match the standards of an international organization.

BACKGROUND:

In 2015, the Legislative Assembly passed Senate Bill 612 and House Bill 2412. These bills required:

- teacher training programs to include dyslexia;
- schools to ensure that existing teachers received training;
- Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to develop a plan to ensure that every student enrolled in public school was screened; and
- ODE to designate a dyslexia specialist.