

SB 274 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Malstrom, Rep. Smith Warner

House Committee On Higher Education and Workforce Development

Action Date: 05/23/17
Action: Do Pass the A-Eng bill.
Vote: 7-1-1-0
Yeas: 7 - Alonso Leon, Bynum, Clem, Johnson, Reardon, Sollman, Whisnant
Nays: 1 - Reschke
Exc: 1 - Heard
Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact
Revenue: No revenue impact
Prepared By: Laura Kentnesse, LPRO Analyst

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires post-secondary educational institutions that offer housing to provide each student enrolling or registering at institution for first time information on vaccine-preventable diseases known to occur in individuals between 16 and 21 years old. Requires information include: signs and symptoms, circumstances that create risk of acquiring disease, category A or B vaccine recommendations by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), availability, benefits, risks and limitations of vaccines, and options for treatment including information on where to receive vaccination. Requires post-secondary institutions consult Oregon Health Authority or CDC when developing information for students. Makes technical changes to state law governing immunization requirements for college students. Specifies that no private right of action against a post-secondary educational institution is created.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Impact of vaccine-preventable diseases, particularly on young Oregonians
- Oregon ranks significantly below national average for adolescent meningococcal meningitis immunizations
- High incidence-rate of meningococcal infections for first year college students in congregate living
- Value of giving students clear, data-based information on vaccines
- Institutions having ability to determine delivery format for vaccine information and Oregon Health Authority involvement in assisting with information template
- Applicability to community colleges given limited student housing on campuses and diversity of student population

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

State law allows the Oregon Health Authority to require that post-secondary educational institutions require students to be vaccinated before the student's second quarter or semester of enrollment. Community colleges and career schools are exempt from these provisions. Students attending school on a nonimmigrant visa must be vaccinated before attending classes. Senate Bill 274-A adds provisions requiring that institutions inform students about available vaccines and the diseases they are designed to prevent.

According to the Centers for Disease Control's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, Category A vaccines are recommended for all persons in an age-factor or risk-factor group, while Category B vaccines are recommended for individuals by their clinicians.