

House Bill 2648

Sponsored by Representative DOHERTY (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Adds school social worker to list of professions included in school-based system for which school district or education service district may receive moneys for decreasing rates of school absenteeism. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to grants to decrease rates of school absenteeism; amending section 5, chapter 68, Oregon
3 Laws 2016; and declaring an emergency.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 5, chapter 68, Oregon Laws 2016, is amended to read:

6 **Sec. 5.** (1) As used in this section, "trauma-informed approach" means an approach that recog-
7 nizes the signs and symptoms of trauma in students, families and staff and responds by fully inte-
8 grating knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures and practices for the purposes of resisting
9 the reoccurrence of trauma and promoting resiliency.

10 (2) The Chief Education Office, in coordination with the Oregon Health Authority and the De-
11 partment of Education, shall distribute moneys as provided in this section to school districts and
12 education service districts for the purpose of decreasing rates of school absenteeism.

13 (3)(a) A school district or an education service district may apply to receive moneys under this
14 section:

15 (A) By submitting an application that includes a proposal consistent with subsection (4) of this
16 section; and

17 (B) If the district has at least one school in the district with:

18 (i) A school-based health center; or

19 (ii) A school-based system for providing behavioral health services and care coordination that
20 may include a school nurse, a school counselor, a school psychologist, *[or]* a clinical psychologist
21 **or a school social worker.**

22 (b) A school district or an education service district may submit an application jointly with one
23 or more community partners that will participate with the district in the pilot program described in
24 subsection (4) of this section.

25 (4) The office shall distribute moneys to an applicant based on the applicant's proposal to design
26 and implement a pilot program to decrease rates of school absenteeism by using trauma-informed
27 approaches to education, health services and intervention strategies that are based in schools and
28 take advantage of community resources. The proposal must include a plan that:

29 (a) Coordinates the services provided by:

30 (A) The school;

31 (B) The school-based health center or the administrator of the school-based system described in

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 subsection (3)(a)(B)(ii) of this section; and

2 (C) Coordinated care organizations, public health entities, nonprofit youth service providers,
3 community-based organizations, social justice groups and similar groups that are located in the
4 community;

5 (b) Requires professional development and support for school staff, including educators, school
6 district or education service district professionals, counselors, nurses, classified staff and other staff
7 of the school district or education service district, to create a culture in the district and community
8 that is informed about how to understand, recognize and respond to trauma;

9 (c) Provides for at least one trauma specialist who:

10 (A) Is permanently assigned at the school-based health center or at the location where the
11 school-based system described in subsection (3)(a)(B)(ii) of this section is provided; and

12 (B) Oversees the implementation of the plan, including coordinating the services described in
13 paragraph (a) of this subsection and coordinating the professional development and support de-
14 scribed in paragraph (b) of this subsection;

15 (d) Indicates how services coordinated under paragraph (a) of this subsection are provided based
16 on a trauma-informed approach and with an understanding, recognition and responsiveness to the
17 effects of trauma on education, absenteeism and school completion;

18 (e) Uses evidence-based and evidence-informed approaches, culturally specific approaches when
19 appropriate and national models that are tailored to the community to ensure that data are collected
20 and the effectiveness of the pilot program is determined;

21 (f) Provides matching community funding, or resources that are the monetary equivalent of
22 matching funding, in a ratio determined by the office by rule; and

23 (g) Pursues additional funding opportunities, including funding under the federal Every Student
24 Succeeds Act (P.L. 114-95).

25 (5) The office shall prescribe the timelines by which an applicant may submit an application for
26 moneys under this section and the form of the application.

27 (6) The office shall evaluate and rank applications based on the proposals submitted in the ap-
28 plications.

29 (7) The office shall distribute moneys to applicants based on:

30 (a) The evaluations and rankings described in subsection (6) of this section;

31 (b) The moneys appropriated to the office for the purpose of this section;

32 (c) The amount of matching community funding available to the applicant; and

33 (d) Any available federal grants.

34 (8)(a) The office, in collaboration with the Oregon Health Authority and the Department of Ed-
35 ucation, shall provide coordination among school districts and education service districts receiving
36 moneys under this section.

37 (b) The office may coordinate with a statewide nonprofit organization that has experience in
38 supporting school-based health centers and student health organizations for the organization to
39 provide technical assistance to school districts and education service districts receiving moneys
40 under this section.

41 (9) Each participating school district and education service district shall provide regular reports
42 on the progress of the district's pilot program to the office to enable the office to:

43 (a) Determine the effectiveness of the pilot program; and

44 (b) Submit a report and recommendations for legislation to the interim committees of the Leg-
45 islative Assembly related to education as required under subsection (10) of this section.

1 (10) No later than October 15, 2019, the Chief Education Office, the Oregon Health Authority
2 and the Department of Education, in collaboration with the statewide nonprofit organization de-
3 scribed in subsection (8) of this section, shall submit a report to the interim committees of the
4 Legislative Assembly related to education. The report must provide individual and comprehensive
5 evaluations on the outcomes of the pilot programs and include any recommendations for legislation
6 based on the results of the pilot programs.

7 **SECTION 2. This 2017 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
8 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2017 Act takes effect**
9 **on its passage.**

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