

SB 13 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Prepared By: Tamara Dykeman, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 1/30, 2/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Updates term for deaf or hard of hearing conditions within special education statutes.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 The -1 amendment provides additional updates to special education terms. It changes the term for "autism" to "autism spectrum disorder" and "blindness or deafness or both" to "deafblind" and separates the term "other health impairment" from "orthopedic impairment."

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) requested the bill to update the term "hearing impairment" with "deaf and hard of hearing" in Oregon's special education statutes. Oregon's deaf and hard of hearing community informed ODE that the term "hearing impairment" does not adequately describe the wide range of hearing loss and cultural affiliations. ODE requested the -1 amendment to update additional outdated or unclear terms within the special education statutes.