

SB 664 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Student Success

Meeting Dates: 2/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires school districts to provide instruction about the Holocaust and genocide. Requires design of the instruction to provide students with specific learning outcomes. Requires instruction to begin in the 2020-2021 school year.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

School districts must provide instructional programs that include content standards adopted by the State Board of Education. In May 2018, the Oregon State Board of Education adopted new content standards for social studies. The new standards require high school students to study the oppression of ethnic and religious groups. Social studies standard HS.65 requires students to "identify and analyze the nature of systemic oppression on ethnic and religious groups, as well as other traditionally marginalized groups, in the pursuit of justice and equality in Oregon, the United States and the world." The social studies standards do not include specific references to the Holocaust or genocide.