

SB 428 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 2/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Secretary of State to conduct an audit on the use of statewide assessments in Oregon's public schools. Provides that audit must address fiscal, administrative, and education impacts on schools. Directs the Secretary of State to submit an audit report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction and to the interim legislative committees on education no later than September 15, 2019. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon law requires the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to implement a statewide assessment system for all students. The federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires states to test students in reading and math annually from grades three through eight and once in high school and in science once in elementary school, middle school, and high school. To meet the state and federal requirements, Oregon students complete the Smarter Balanced assessment in English and math in grades 3 through 8 and grade 11 and the Oregon Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (OAKS) in science in grades 5, 8, and 11. Additionally, school districts are required to administer a kindergarten readiness assessment, English language proficiency assessment (English learners), Oregon Extended Assessment (students with cognitive disabilities), and the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) (grade 10).

In 2015, the Oregon legislature passed House Bill 2713 requiring the Secretary of State to conduct an audit of statewide assessments. In September 2016, the Secretary of State issued the audit report, *Oregon Department of Education: Clearer Communication, Consistent Use of Results and an Ongoing Commitment to Improvement Could Help Address Testing Concerns*. Senate Bill 428 requires the Secretary of State to conduct an audit of statewide assessments no later than September 15, 2019.