

TO: Rep. Hernandez

FROM: Jessica Ventura , Oregon Dept of Education

DATE: 3/6/2019

SUBJECT: HB 2441-1

You recently requested the department to analyze the -1 amendments to HB 2441 and how they compared with existing department administrative rules.

EXISTING LAW

[OAR 581-022-2060](#) (Comprehensive School Counseling) requires every district and school to implement a comprehensive school counseling program that serves students in grades k-12, based upon the Department of Education's [Framework for Comprehensive School Counseling Programs](#). The framework identifies staff responsibilities to plan, design, and deliver a comprehensive school counseling program that meets the unique needs of their students and community; aligns with the district's school improvement plans; assigns counseling responsibilities to the appropriate personnel; expects all school staff to participate in implementing the comprehensive school counseling program; and assists each student to develop, and annually review, an educational plan in grades 7-12.

The OAR requires districts to maintain appropriate licensed personnel to promote effective counseling and advising practices, and to consider personnel to student ratio of 1:250, as well as provide clerical support staff for the program. Lastly, this OAR outlines that ODE shall review annual program assessments of districts and schools for program evaluation and improvement efforts.

Additional guidance is provided to districts in the

WHAT HB 2441-1 DOES

HB 2441-1 directs school districts to provide a coordinated comprehensive school counseling program. The program may be implemented by a TSPC-licensed school counselor or a TSPC-licensed school social worker, or any combination of persons licensed by TSPC who are competent to implement the program.

The bill directs the State Board of Education to adopt standards for coordinated comprehensive school counseling programs. In doing so, the SBE must collaborate with TSPC to ensure the standards are inclusive and flexible as to who can implement the program, while maintaining quality. The State Board of Education would be required to review CSCP standards annually.

DOES HB 2441 CONFLICT WITH EXISTING RULES OR PRACTICE?

No. The measure affirms that districts are to provide a coordinated comprehensive school counseling program. OAR 581-022-2060 requires "licensed staff." HB 2441-1 states school social workers would also be TSPC-licensed. The bill, as amended, clarifies the flexibility school districts have in who they may hire to implement the school counseling program.