

SB 157 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 3/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Department of Education to administer nationally recognized high school assessments. Requires assessments to be administered in multiple states and recognized by post-secondary institutions. Allows school districts to substitute national assessments for statewide summative assessments related to mathematics or English. Takes effect July 1, 2020.

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:

-1 Directs the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to contract with a nonprofit entity to administer nationally recognized high school assessments for mathematics and English. Requires ODE to conduct a competitive bidding process prior to entering into contract. Removes requirement for assessment to satisfy federal laws related to adequate yearly progress.

BACKGROUND:

In 2001, Congress enacted the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), requiring testing of all students in third through eighth grade with statewide summative assessments. In 2015, President Obama signed the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which amended NCLB. ESSA allows states some flexibility concerning assessment practices.

Currently, students in Oregon take the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) summative assessments in mathematics and English language arts at the end of each school year from third grade through eighth grade and once in high school. The Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and American College Testing (ACT) are examples of nationally recognized academic assessments that are also used for entrance into post-secondary institutions. This measure would allow these national assessments to replace Oregon's statewide assessments for high school students in English language arts and mathematics.