

SB 12 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Action Date: 02/18/19

Action: Do pass with amendments and requesting referral to Student Success. (Printed A-Engrossed.)

Vote: 4-0-1-0

Yeas: 4 - Hass, Heard, Thomsen, Wagner

Exc: 1 - Gelser

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Tamara Dykeman, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/11, 2/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes inclusive school pilot program to foster safe, effective, equitable, and conducive learning environments for all students. Directs Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to select at least 40 school districts to participate in pilot project. Establishes application, selection, and administrative requirements. Directs ODE to provide technical assistance and funding for professional development to participants. Sunsets pilot program on December 31, 2023. Directs ODE to award grants to school districts to implement early-warning systems to help students graduate. Establishes requirements for systems. Sets grant amount. Requires ODE to provide technical assistance to recipients. Appropriates funding to ODE for grants. Directs ODE to oversee a network of regional student councils. Establishes council functions, including the development of a student survey. Requires education service districts (ESDs) to administer the councils. Permits reimbursement for council expenses. Provides ODE with rulemaking authority. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2019.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Safety concerns and absenteeism
- Bullying and suicide
- Social and emotional learning
- Safe and Effective Schools for All Students Advisory Committee
- Early indication systems
- Student voice network
- Importance of student voice in developing surveys
- Need for assistance with creating inclusive school environments

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Adds geographic diversity to selection considerations for pilot program. Directs ODE to award grants to school districts to implement early warning systems to help students graduate. Establishes requirements for systems. Expands assistance ODE must provide grant recipients. Eliminates requirement for student and family advisory committee.

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BACKGROUND:

In March 2018, ODE created the Safe and Effective Schools for All Students Advisory Committee to discuss how to better support students in schools. The purpose of the committee was to identify promising practices; create policy recommendations for the State Board of Education, local school boards, and the Oregon Legislative Assembly; and suggest investments related to the policy recommendations for consideration by the 2019 Oregon legislature. Senate Bill 12A implements the committee's policy recommendations related to supporting inclusive schools, implementing early indication systems, and increasing students' voices in policy decisions.