

SB 584 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Action Date: 02/27/19

Action: Do pass and be referred to Student Success and to Ways and Means by prior reference.

Vote: 4-0-1-0

Yeas: 4 - Gelser, Hass, Thomsen, Wagner

Exc: 1 - Heard

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/6, 2/25, 2/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to establish and maintain the Statewide School Safety and Prevention System. Establishes system requirements. Requires the system be supported by school safety and prevention specialists. Establishes requirements for specialists. Directs the State Board of Education (SBE), in consultation with stakeholders, to adopt rules to implement the system. Appropriates \$3.87 million to establish and maintain the Statewide School Safety and Prevention System. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2019.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- School safety task force
- Bullying prevention programs
- Student wellness and suicide prevention
- Safety assessment teams
- Promotion and implementation of student tip line
- Importance of creating a coherent system
- Increases in suicide rates among students, including elementary students
- Rates of suicide and bullying in subgroup populations
- Importance of equity lens
- Types of staffing needed to implement system
- Relationship between absenteeism rates and unsafe school environments

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2014, the legislature created the Task Force on School Safety. The task force includes representatives from police and fire departments, schools, and community mental health programs, as well as elected officials. The legislature directed the task force to develop a database of school floor plans and to examine models for training programs, school safety, and incident response protocols. Senate Bill 584 includes a proposal from the Task Force on School Safety to establish a statewide school safety and prevention system that focuses on bullying prevention, student wellness and suicide prevention, threat and risk assessment, and promotion and implementation of a statewide tip line for students.