

HB 2051 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Lewis

House Committee On Judiciary

Action Date: 03/25/19

Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 11-0-0-0

Yeas: 11 - Barker, Bynum, Gorsek, Greenlick, Lewis, McLane, Piluso, Power, Sprenger, Stark, Williamson

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Channa Newell, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 2/12, 3/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Specifies that contents of reports to school safety tip line are not subject to disclosure in public records request unless disclosure is in public interest. Makes personally identifiable data exempt from disclosure. Requires person receiving tip line information to use information only for follow-up contact to obtain or provide further information. Specifies that personally identifiable information may be disclosed to the tip line staff, relevant educational institution, law enforcement, or service provider. Takes effect 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Exemptions from disclosure of public records
- Absolute exemption for certain items and conditional exemption for others
- History of school safety tip line
- Need for sharing of certain information among responders

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Removes absolute exemption from disclosure under public record laws. Subjects disclosure of non-personally identifiable information obtained by tip line to public interest test under ORS 192.345.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon State Police contracts with a vendor to provide a 24-hour school-safety report program, called "Safe Oregon Tip Line." Tips may be submitted by parents, students, staff or community members and can be submitted in a number of ways, including via e-mail, app, voice, or text. Once a tip is received, the information is assessed and the school is contacted. The person reviewing the information may also contact law enforcement.

House Bill 2051 A specifies that information that is shared by a person making a tip is not subject to disclosure under Oregon's public records laws unless it is in the public's interest to disclose it. Personally identifiable data is given an exemption from disclosure regardless of the circumstances. HB 2051 A allows sharing of information as necessary for follow-up contact or to provide further information amongst the tip line staff, the relevant school authorities, a service provider, such as a mental health counselor, and law enforcement. HB 2051 A allows the State Police to share information in a summary or aggregate report that does not include personally identifiable information.