

SB 13 B STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Helt

House Committee On Education

Action Date: 05/06/19

Action: Do pass with amendments to the A-Eng bill. (Printed B-Eng.)

Vote: 9-0-0-0

Yeas: 9 - Alonso Leon, Doherty, Helt, Hernandez, Neron, Reardon, Reschke, Sollman, Wallan

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Alethia Miller, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/29, 5/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Updates terms within special education statutes. Changes the term "hearing impairment" to "deafness and being hard of hearing," "autism" to "autism spectrum disorder," "deaf-blindness" to "deafblindness," and "emotional disturbance" to "emotional behavior disorder." Separates the term "other health impairment" from "orthopedic impairment." Changes the term "Emotional behavior disorder" to "Emotional behavior disability." Changes age range for children with developmental delay from "in third grade or lower" to "three through nine years of age."

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Interest in updating language referencing deaf and hard of hearing
- Correcting error from HB 4067 (2018) with an amendment

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Changes the term "Emotional behavior disorder" to "Emotional behavior disability." Changes age range for children with developmental delay from "in third grade or lower" to "three through nine years of age."

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) requested the bill to update the term "hearing impairment" with "deafness and being hard of hearing" in Oregon's special education statutes. Oregon's deaf and hard of hearing community informed ODE that the term "hearing impairment" does not adequately describe the wide range of hearing loss and cultural affiliations. ODE requested an amendment to update additional outdated or unclear terms within the special education statutes and to correct an error from House Bill 4067 (2018) in order to align with federal law.