

House Bill 2290

Sponsored by Representative WITT (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Directs education service districts to ensure that services of school behavioral health specialist are available to component school districts.

Directs education service districts to assist component school districts in developing and implementing student threat assessment policy.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2019.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to behavior health services in schools; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2019 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 334.

SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section, "school behavioral health specialist" means a person who is:

(a) A school social worker or a school psychologist who is licensed by the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission and whose training and competence include diagnosing mental illnesses and implementing appropriate interventions; or

(b) A medical professional who is licensed in this state to diagnose mental illnesses and implement appropriate interventions and whose training and competence includes working with children in kindergarten through grade 12.

(2) Each education service district shall ensure that the services of a school behavioral health specialist are available to each component school district.

(3) Each education service district shall assist the component school districts in developing and implementing a student threat assessment policy. The policy must:

(a) Be developed and implemented in consultation with a school behavioral health specialist;

(b) Be consistent with best practices in identifying mental health issues;

(c) To the extent practicable, maintain students' dignity, confidentiality and presumption of innocence; and

(d) As allowed by law, require a school to disclose to a student's parents or guardians when the student is being subjected to increased scrutiny and to allow the parents or guardians to access documents related to the threat assessment.

(4)(a) School districts that are not component school districts are required to:

(A) Employ or contract with a school behavioral health specialist.

(B) Develop a policy consistent with the requirements of subsection (3) of this section.

(b) For the purpose of this subsection, a school district that is not a component school district may enter into a contract with the education service district within which the school district is located for the services of a school behavioral health specialist.

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **SECTION 3.** (1) Section 2 of this 2019 Act becomes operative on July 1, 2020.

2 (2) The requirements of section 2 of this 2019 Act related to the provision of the services
3 of a school behavioral health specialist and the development of a student threat assessment
4 policy first apply to the 2020-2021 school year.

5 **SECTION 4.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
6 ated to the Department of Education, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, out of the
7 General Fund, the amount of \$5,000,000, which may be expended as determined by the de-
8 partment as most effective in training teachers, administrators and school resource officers
9 in the implementation of student threat assessment policies.

10 **SECTION 5.** This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
11 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect
12 July 1, 2019.

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