

House Bill 3236

Sponsored by Representative HELT

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 Department of Education to implement assessment system that limits number of content-based assessments and criterion-referenced assessments and to encourage school districts to use performance-based assessments. Allows school districts to determine student's progress toward achieving academic content standards at intervals greater than annually.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to assessments administered in schools; amending ORS 329.485.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 329.485 is amended to read:

5 329.485. (1) As used in this section:

6 (a) "Content-based assessment" means testing of the understanding of a student of a predeter-
7 mined body of knowledge.

8 (b) "Criterion-referenced assessment" means testing of the knowledge or ability of a student with
9 respect to some standard.

10 (c) "Performance-based assessment" means testing of the ability of a student to use knowledge
11 and skills to create a complex or multifaceted product or complete a complex task.

12 (2)(a) The Department of Education shall implement statewide a valid and reliable assessment
13 system for all students that meets technical adequacy standards. The assessment system shall in-
14 clude criterion-referenced assessments including performance-based assessments, content-based as-
15 sessments, and other valid methods to measure the academic content standards and to identify
16 students who meet or exceed the standards. **When developing the assessment system, the de-**
17 **partment shall limit to the greatest extent practicable the number of content-based assess-**
18 **ments administered to students and shall encourage school districts to use**
19 **performance-based assessments.**

20 (b) The department shall develop the statewide assessment system in mathematics, science,
21 English, history, geography, economics and civics.

22 (3) In addition to the assessment system implemented under subsection (2) of this section, the
23 department may make available to school districts and public charter schools an assessment system
24 that uses criterion-referenced assessments, including performance-based assessments and content-
25 based assessments to:

26 (a) Measure a student's progress toward mastery of the knowledge and skills of the student's
27 current grade level or course content level;

28 (b) Determine the student's level of mastery, which shall be determined regardless of the actual
29 grade level of the student and may be determined by adapting the assessment during the assessment
30 process as a result of the performance of the student;

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 (c) Track and provide reports on the progress of a student based on the information provided
 2 under paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection; and

3 (d) Provide predictions of anticipated student progress that are based on the information pro-
 4 vided under this subsection and not on the current grade level of the student.

5 (4)(a) School districts and public charter schools shall implement the statewide assessment sys-
 6 tem in mathematics, science and English. In addition, school districts and public charter schools
 7 may implement the statewide assessment system in history, geography, economics and civics.

8 (b) School districts and public charter schools may choose to implement the assessment system
 9 described in subsection (3) of this section.

10 (5)(a) *[Each year]* **At intervals or grade levels identified by the State Board of Education**
 11 **by rule**, the resident school district shall be accountable for determining the student's progress to-
 12 ward achieving the academic content standards. Progress toward the academic content standards:

13 (A) Shall clearly show the student and parents whether the student is making progress toward
 14 meeting or exceeding the academic content standards at the student's current grade level or course
 15 content level;

16 (B) Shall be based on the student's progress toward mastery of a continuum of academic
 17 knowledge and skills; and

18 (C) May be based on the student's progress in a continuum of knowledge and skills that are not
 19 academic and that may include student behaviors that are defined by the school district.

20 (b) School districts shall determine the method and format for showing student progress toward
 21 achieving the academic content standards. Communications on student progress shall include a
 22 reasonable number, as determined by the school district, of academic knowledge and skills in a
 23 content area to enable parents and students to understand a student's progress toward meeting or
 24 exceeding the academic content standards. No more than three indicators of academic knowledge
 25 and skills per content area reporting category shall be required as provided by this section. A
 26 school district may use more than three indicators of academic knowledge and skills per content
 27 area reporting category if the school district implements a proficiency education system as provided
 28 by ORS 329.119.

29 (6) In addition to the requirements described in subsection (5) of this section, the school district
 30 shall adopt and implement a reporting system based on the school district board adopted course
 31 content of the school district's curriculum. The reporting system:

32 (a) Shall clearly show the student and parents whether the student is achieving course require-
 33 ments at the student's current grade level or course content level;

34 (b) Shall be based on the student's progress toward mastery of a continuum of academic knowl-
 35 edge and skills; and

36 (c) May be based on the student's progress in a continuum of knowledge and skills that are not
 37 academic and that may include student behaviors that are defined by the school district.

38 (7) If a student has not met or has exceeded all of the academic content standards, the school
 39 district shall make additional services or alternative educational or public school options available
 40 to the student.

41 (8) If the student to whom additional services or alternative educational options have been made
 42 available does not meet or exceed the academic content standards within one year, the school dis-
 43 trict, with the consent of the parents, shall make an appropriate placement, which may include an
 44 alternative education program or the transfer of the student to another public school in the school
 45 district or to a public school in another school district that agrees to accept the student. The school

1 district that receives the student shall be entitled to payment. The payment shall consist of:

2 (a) An amount equal to the school district's expenses from its local revenues for each student
3 in average daily membership, payable by the resident school district in the same year; and

4 (b) Any state and federal funds the attending school district is entitled to receive payable as
5 provided in ORS 339.133 (2)(b).

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