Senate Bill 282

Sponsored by Senator MONNES ANDERSON, Representatives SANCHEZ, PILUSO; Representatives KENY-GUYER, NOSSE, SALINAS (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.

Requires Department of Education, in cooperation with Oregon Health Authority, to conduct study to determine and recommend appropriate health standards to govern student use of computers, mobile digital devices and other electronic media in classrooms.

Requires department by rule to adopt guidelines for limiting student use of computers, mobile digital devices and other electronic media in classrooms in accordance with health and safety guidelines department develops, allowing parent to give or deny consent for parent’s child to participate in curricula that involve extensive work with computers, mobile digital devices or electronic media and offering parent alternative curricula that involve less exposure to computers, mobile digital devices or electronic media.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to use of electronic devices in classrooms; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Education, in cooperation with the Oregon Health Authority, shall conduct a study to determine and recommend appropriate health standards to govern student use of computers, mobile digital devices and other electronic media in the classroom. The study, at a minimum, must involve a review of relevant medical and other literature that examines the effects on children of excessive use of computers, mobile digital devices and other electronic media.

(2) The department shall adopt by rule appropriate guidelines for:

(a) Limiting student use of computers, mobile digital devices and other electronic media in the classroom in accordance with health and safety guidelines the department develops following the study described in subsection (1) of this section. In adopting the rules, the department shall consider guidelines and recommendations from reputable medical sources, such as the American Academy of Pediatrics, and shall take into account a child’s overall use of computers, mobile digital devices and other electronic media throughout the day and not only in the classroom.

(b) Allowing a parent to give or deny consent for the parent’s child to participate in curricula that involve extensive work with computers, mobile digital devices or electronic media and offering the parent alternative curricula that involve less exposure to computers, mobile digital devices or electronic media.

(c) Encouraging more physical activity during the school day outside the classroom.

(3) The department shall develop materials to inform parents of the hazards of excessive use of computers, mobile digital devices and electronic media and shall make the materials available to schools, school employees and parents of students in public and private schools in this state.

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.

LC 1413
(4) The department shall collect, store and use, and specify guidelines for schools to collect, store and use, only the minimal amount of data about students that is necessary to implement educational programs.

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

(2) The Department of Education may adopt rules and take any other action before the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section that is necessary to enable the department, on and after the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section, to exercise all of the duties, functions and powers conferred on the department by section 1 of this 2019 Act.

SECTION 3. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect on its passage.