

Senate Bill 496

Sponsored by Senator GELSER; Representatives ALONSO LEON, SANCHEZ (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 school districts to ensure that all students of school district have equal access to educational facilities. Prohibits certain requirements or restrictions from being imposed on alternative education students, English language learners or special education students.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2019.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to access to educational facilities; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:**

5 (a) **“Alternative education student” means a student who is part of a school or a separate**
6 **class group that was designed to best serve the student’s educational needs and interests and**
7 **to assist the student in achieving the academic standards of the school district and the state.**

8 (b) **“English language learner” has the meaning given that term in ORS 336.079.**

9 (c) **“Special education student” means a student who is receiving special education or**
10 **related services, as provided by ORS chapter 343.**

11 (d) **“Traditional student” means a student who is not an alternative education student,**
12 **an English language learner or a special education student.**

13 (2) **Each school district shall ensure that all students of the school district have equal**
14 **access to educational facilities if the facilities are appropriate to meet the students’ learning**
15 **needs.**

16 (3) **For an alternative education student, an English language learner or a special edu-**
17 **cation student, a school district may not:**

18 (a) **Place the student in a classroom or facility that is not equal in quality to the quality**
19 **of classrooms or facilities used by traditional students for the majority of the school day;**

20 (b) **Place the student in a self-contained classroom that is outside of the main school**
21 **facility;**

22 (c) **Have locks on internal or external doors that keep a student from accessing the same**
23 **learning areas accessible by traditional students during the school day; or**

24 (d) **Restrict access to the common lunch area, common gathering areas, recreational and**
25 **exercise areas, locker rooms, theater and other specialized learning areas in a manner that**
26 **is different than any restrictions imposed on traditional students in the same grade.**

27 **SECTION 2. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
28 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect**
29 **July 1, 2019.**

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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.