

# Senate Bill 575

Sponsored by Senator KNOPP (at the request of Oregon Optometric Physicians Association) (Pre-session 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 vision examination as part of evaluation before initially receiving special education.

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### A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to evaluations for special education; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 343.146.

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

**SECTION 1.** ORS 343.146 is amended to read:

343.146. (1) To receive special education, children with disabilities shall be determined eligible for special education services under a school district program approved under ORS 343.045 and as provided under ORS 343.221.

(2) Before initially providing special education, the school district shall ensure that a full and individual evaluation is conducted to determine the child's eligibility for special education and the child's special educational needs. **An evaluation conducted under this subsection must include a vision examination.**

(3) Eligibility for special education shall be determined pursuant to rules adopted by the State Board of Education.

(4) Each school district shall conduct a reevaluation of each child with a disability in accordance with rules adopted by the State Board of Education.

(5) If a medical or vision examination or health assessment is required as part of an initial evaluation or reevaluation, the evaluation shall be given:

(a) In the case of a medical examination, by a physician licensed to practice by a state board of medical examiners or a state medical board or by a naturopathic physician licensed under ORS chapter 685;

(b) In the case of a health assessment, by a nurse licensed by a state board of nursing and specially certified as a nurse practitioner or by a licensed physician assistant; and

(c) In the case of a vision examination, by an ophthalmologist or optometrist licensed by a state board.

**SECTION 2.** The amendments to ORS 343.146 by section 1 of this 2019 Act apply to evaluations conducted on or after the effective date of this 2019 Act.

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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.