

**HB 2697 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Rep. Smith DB, Rep.  
Gomberg

**House Committee On Education**

---

**Action Date:** 03/23/21

**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

**Vote:** 10-0-0-0

**Yeas:** 10 - Alonso Leon, Hudson, Neron, Owens, Reardon, Ruiz, Smith DB, Sollman, Weber, Wright

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Lisa Gezelter, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 3/2, 3/23

---

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Requires education providers to prohibit the use or display of nooses, symbols of neo-Nazi ideology, or the battle flag of the Confederacy on school property or in an education program. Establishes exception for displays that align with statewide academic content standards. Requires education providers to adopt policies and establishes policy requirements. Requires education providers to investigate bias incidents. Establishes noncompliance as violation of discrimination in education statute codified in ORS 659.850 *et seq.* Establishes sanctions for noncompliance, including possible loss of state funding.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Effect of hate symbols on students and staff
- Benefits of inclusive school environments
- Administrative rules related to hate symbols

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Replaces the measure.

**BACKGROUND:**

In September 2020, the State Board of Education adopted Oregon Administrative Rule 581-022-2312. The rule requires education providers to adopt policies that prohibit the use or display of hate symbols on school grounds or in any program, service, school, or activity financed at least partially by state funds and establishes requirements for providers to respond to bias incidents.

House Bill 2697 A enacts similar requirements into law.