

# House Bill 2960

Sponsored by Representative OWENS (at the request of former Representative Cheri 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**.

Allows school district and public charter school to implement nationally recognized high school assessment in mathematics, science or English if assessment complies with specified criteria.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to school assessments; 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.

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

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

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

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

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

30 (d) Provide predictions of anticipated student progress that are based on the information pro-  
31 vided under this subsection and not on the current grade level 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 (4)(a) School districts and public charter schools shall implement:

2 (A) The statewide assessment system in mathematics, science and English[. *In addition,*]; or

3 (B) **A nationally recognized high school assessment in mathematics, science or English**  
 4 **if the assessment complies with criteria established by the State Board of Education by rule**  
 5 **and the school district or public charter school has provided appropriate notices to the De-**  
 6 **partment of Education and to the parents of the students who will be taking the assessment.**

7 (b) School districts and public charter schools may implement the statewide assessment system  
 8 in history, geography, economics and civics.

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

11 (5)(a) Each year the resident school district shall be accountable for determining the student's  
 12 progress toward achieving the academic content standards. Progress toward the academic content  
 13 standards:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 district or to a public school in another school district that agrees to accept the student. The school  
2 district that receives the student shall be entitled to payment. The payment shall consist of:

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

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

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