Senate Bill 600

Sponsored by Senator FREDERICK (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.

Directs Secretary of State to conduct audit of use of statewide summative assessment in public schools in this state.

Requires Secretary of State to submit report to Superintendent of Public Instruction and to interim committees of Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2022.

Sunsets December 31, 2022.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to audit of use of statewide summative assessments; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) The Secretary of State shall conduct an audit related to the use of statewide summative assessments in the public schools of this state.

(2) The audit required under subsection (1) of this section must include an analysis of:

(a) The financial impact of statewide summative assessments on school districts and the Department of Education, including administrative costs incurred by school districts and the department in providing statewide summative assessments;

(b) The impact of statewide summative assessments on school facilities, including libraries and technology centers, taking into consideration input from principals and teachers;

(c) The impact of statewide summative assessments on instructional time, curricula and educators’ exercise of professional judgment, taking into consideration input from principals and teachers;

(d) The impact of statewide summative assessments on the social and emotional well-being of students, taking into consideration input from principals, teachers, students and parents;

(e) The amount paid to testing companies each biennium to provide and administer all required statewide summative assessments, including information on the payors, the payees, the amounts of payments and the sources of payments;

(f) The minimum number of statewide summative assessments required under federal law compared to the number of statewide summative assessments required to be administered in this state;

(g) Statewide summative assessment options allowed under federal law that may have a lower impact on students and schools and an explanation of why those options have not been pursued in this state;

(h) Requirements for being excused from taking a statewide summative assessment, including:

(A) Identification of which statewide summative assessments students may be excused

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.

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from taking, which statewide summative assessments require a specific reason for a student
to be excused and an explanation of why those statewide summative assessments require a
specific reason for a student to be excused;

(B) A summary of forms and notices required to excuse a student from taking a state-
wide summative assessment;

(C) Identification of the number of students who were excused from taking a statewide
summative assessment each school year for the past five school years;

(D) Any complaints the department has received from parents, students or others on the
requirements to be excused from taking a statewide summative assessment, including com-
plaints about the forms or notices; and

(E) The process for developing and revising the forms and notices for excusing a student
from taking a statewide summative assessment; and

(i) The benefits and challenges of using other nationally recognized summative assess-
ments, including the ACT test or the SAT test, for high school assessment, taking into
consideration input from high school teachers, counselors, principals and students.

(3) No later than September 15, 2022, the Secretary of State shall submit a report on the
audit required under subsection (1) of this section to the Superintendent of Public Instruc-
tion and to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to education.

SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2021 Act is repealed on December 31, 2022.

SECTION 3. This 2021 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2021 Act takes effect
on its passage.