

## HB 2472 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On Higher Education

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**Action Date:** 04/04/23

**Action:** Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Eng.)

**Vote:** 6-3-0-0

**Yeas:** 6 - Bowman, Hudson, Lively, Mannix, Ruiz, Sosa

**Nays:** 3 - Elmer, McIntire, Wright

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Ellen O'Brien, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 2/28, 3/30, 4/4

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Permits public universities' participation in interscholastic activities only if that public university implements policies, complaint process, and sanctions system to address physically threatening, abusive, or discriminatory speech at interscholastic activities and conducts annual survey. Requires public university employees whose official duties relate to athletics department to receive training on requirements for participation in interscholastic activities. Requires each public university to submit annual report on compliance to Legislative Assembly. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Appropriate level of accountability
- Ability to regulate ridicule vs other forms of speech
- Safety of students and employees

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

#### BACKGROUND:

House Bill 3409 (2019) required public K-12 school districts to regulate and respond to behavior at interscholastic events, including adopting policies, a complaint process, a sanctions system, and an annual survey to address derogatory and inappropriate speech in interscholastic activities.

News organizations reported that at a football game between the University of Oregon (UO) and Brigham Young University (BYU) on September 17, 2022, students repeatedly chanted an anti-Mormon statement, resulting in apologies from the university, a student organization, and then-Governor Kate Brown.

House Bill 2472 A requires public universities to implement policies, a complaint process, and a sanctions system to address derogatory speech in interscholastic activities and to conduct an annual survey to understand potential violations of such policies. The measure also requires universities to submit an annual report on their compliance.