

HB 3014 B STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**Carrier:** Sen. Campos**Senate Committee On Rules**

Action Date: 06/20/23
Action: Do pass the B-Eng bill.
Vote: 3-0-3-0
Yeas: 3 - Lieber, Manning Jr, President Wagner
Exc: 3 - Hansell, Knopp, Steiner
Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued
Revenue: Revenue impact issued
Prepared By: Ellen O'Brien
Meeting Dates: 6/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Defines alternative transportation. Defines active transportation and declares it a form of alternative transportation. Requires State Board of Education to adopt rules for distribution of State School Fund transportation grants that allow for reimbursement of alternative transportation costs. Specifies that alternative transportation costs must be part of supplemental plan or waiver approved by State Board of Education. Requires additional documentation for approval of alternative transportation costs related to public transportation. Permits State Board of Education to waive transportation requirements only if school district presents plan for providing suitable and sufficient alternative transportation. Specifies required elements of waiver request from school district and conditions under which State Board of Education may approve supplemental plan or waiver request to use alternative transportation. Permits school district to provide alternative transportation without seeking reimbursement. Applies to approved transportation costs incurred on or after July 1, 2024.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Biking and walking options for students
- Shortage of bus drivers
- Collaboration between stakeholders on amendments
- Sideboards on alternative transportation options

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

School districts receive transportation grants each fiscal year from the State School Fund that cover 70 to 90 percent of the cost of providing approved transportation, which is currently limited primarily to school buses ([ORS 327.006](#)). Transportation costs are only considered approved for students who live more than one or one and a half miles from the school; students who require transportation for health or safety reasons; preschool children with disabilities; students who require room and board in lieu of transportation; and students participating in school-sponsored field trips. House Bill 3014 B makes these grants available for districts to facilitate walking or biking for students living within three miles of the school, or to pay for public transportation such as bus passes for secondary school students.

The measure also leverages existing processes that allow districts and the State Board of Education to approve supplemental plans and waivers for transportation costs. Waivers, which are governed by [ORS 327.043](#), require districts to present a plan with suitable and sufficient alternative modes of transporting students. House Bill 3014 B clarifies the definitions of "alternative transportation" and "suitable and sufficient" for this purpose. Supplemental plans are governed in rule by [OAR 581-023-0040](#). These plans are used to identify specific groups of

HB 3014 B STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

students living within one and a half miles of the school who require transportation based on health or safety reasons including special education. Approval of the supplemental plan by the State Board of Education allows the school district to receive reimbursement for the costs of transporting those students, even though those costs would not normally be eligible because of the students' proximity to the school.

House Bill 3014 B defines alternative transportation costs that can be reimbursed with State School Fund transportation grants and permits the State Board of Education to approve a school district's use of alternative transportation through a supplemental plan or waiver. Among other limitations, alternative transportation costs must be no more than 5 percent of total approved transportation costs, must not increase the district's projected approved transportation costs, and must be reviewed every two years by the Oregon Department of Education.