

A-Engrossed House Bill 2472

Ordered by the House April 10
Including House Amendments dated April 10

Sponsored by Representative BYNUM (at the request of Oregon Student Association) (Pre-session 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.

Requires public universities to develop specified policies and accountability mechanisms for behavior at interscholastic activities, including sporting events. **Requires that sanctions for violations of policies include prohibition from attending future interscholastic activities for defined period of time.** [*Prohibits public universities from participating in interscholastic activities or receiving state moneys in form of state grants, scholarship funds or Oregon State Police support if public university fails to develop or enforce policies and accountability mechanisms.*]

Requires public universities to train all athletic department personnel on policies and accountability mechanisms.

[*Requires public universities to suspend athletic director and head coach for minimum of one week if policies are violated through use of derogatory or inappropriate names, insults, verbal assaults, profanity or ridicule at interscholastic activity hosted by public university.*]

[*Requires Higher Education Coordinating Commission to work with independent universities, NCAA and professional, student, cultural and religious organizations to develop rules for interscholastic codes of conduct.*]

Requires each public university to submit annual report to interim committees of Legislative Assembly relating to higher education that details how policy and sanctions have been implemented during previous academic year.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to behavior related to interscholastic activities; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) A public university listed in ORS 352.002 may participate in interscho-**
5 **lastic activities, including but not limited to interscholastic sporting events, only if the public**
6 **university:**

7 (a) **Implements equity-focused policies that address the use of language, insults, verbal**
8 **assaults, profanity, ridicule or the display of gestures, signs, symbols or images that:**

9 (A) **Are physically threatening, abusive or discriminatory, including on the basis of race,**
10 **ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, disability or sexual orientation;**
11 **and**

12 (B) **Occur at an interscholastic activity, including by spectators of the interscholastic**
13 **activity;**

14 (b) **Maintains a transparent complaint process that:**

15 (A) **Has a reporting system to allow participants of interscholastic activities or members**
16 **of the public to make complaints about student, coach or spectator behavior;**

17 (B) **Responds to a complaint made under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph within two**
18 **business days of the complaint being received; and**

19 (C) **Strives to resolve a complaint received under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph**

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 within 30 days of the complaint being received;

2 (c) Develops and implements sanctions against students, coaches and spectators if a
3 complaint made under paragraph (b) of this subsection is verified; and

4 (d) Performs an annual survey of student athletes and student spectators to understand
5 and respond to potential violations of equity-focused policies adopted under paragraph (a) of
6 this subsection or violations of ORS 659.850.

7 (2) Sanctions that are developed and implemented under subsection (1)(c) of this section
8 shall include a prohibition from attending future interscholastic activities for a defined pe-
9 riod of time, with more severe infractions resulting in longer periods of exclusion from fu-
10 ture interscholastic activities.

11 (3) Each employee of a public university whose official duties relate to the management,
12 oversight or running of athletic events at the public university must receive formal training
13 regarding the requirements established by this section.

14 (4) As used in this section:

15 (a) "Interscholastic activities" means any activity between a public university listed in
16 ORS 352.002 and one or more other universities or colleges that is outside of the regular
17 academic curriculum of the public university.

18 (b) "Interscholastic activities" does not include any intramural or recreational sporting
19 events that are not organized by the National Collegiate Athletic Association or other es-
20 tablished athletic conference.

21 **SECTION 2.** (1) Each public university listed in ORS 352.002 shall submit a report in the
22 manner provided by ORS 192.245, to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly re-
23 lated to higher education no later than September 15 of each calendar year.

24 (2) The report required under subsection (1) of this section shall include, for the previous
25 academic year:

26 (a) The number of complaints reported under the process described in section 1 (1)(b) of
27 this 2023 Act;

28 (b) The number, level and type of sanctions applied by the public university in response
29 to complaints described in paragraph (a) of this subsection;

30 (c) A summary of the implementation of the complaint process described in section 1
31 (1)(b) of this 2023 Act;

32 (d) The results of the student athlete and student spectator survey completed pursuant
33 to section 1 (1)(d) of this 2023 Act;

34 (e) An overview of the training for individuals whose official duties relate to the man-
35 agement, oversight or running of athletic events as required under section 1 (3) of this 2023
36 Act; and

37 (f) Any additional efforts by the public university related to the provision of student and
38 spectator safety at interscholastic activities.

39 (3) As used in this section, "interscholastic activities" has the meaning given that term
40 in section 1 of this 2023 Act.

41 **SECTION 3.** (1) Section 1 of this 2023 Act first applies to the 2023-2024 academic year.

42 (2) The first report required under section 2 of this 2023 Act must be submitted no later
43 than September 15, 2024.

44 **SECTION 4.** This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
45 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect

1 **on its passage.**

2
