

# Senate Bill 578

Sponsored by Senator GELSER BLOUIN (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**.

Provides that 11 percent of moneys from corporate income and excise tax kicker for 2021-2023 biennium be used for special education support. Describes allowed uses of moneys.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2023.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to the use of corporate kicker moneys for special education; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, "special education" means education and related**  
5 **services that are provided to students by a public education provider under the Individuals**  
6 **with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.**

7 **(2) Notwithstanding ORS 291.345, if revenues received by the General Fund from the**  
8 **corporate income and excise taxes during the 2021-2023 biennium exceed the amount esti-**  
9 **imated to be received from such taxes for the biennium by two percent or more, the Legis-**  
10 **lative Assembly shall appropriate an amount equal to the total amount of the excess as**  
11 **follows:**

12 **(a) Eighty-nine percent to the State School Fund established by ORS 327.008 for appor-**  
13 **tionment as provided in ORS 327.008.**

14 **(b) Eleven percent for appropriation to the Department of Education to be used for spe-**  
15 **cial education support as described in subsection (3) of this section.**

16 **(3) The Department of Education shall use the amount appropriated to the department**  
17 **under subsection (2)(b) of this section for special education support as follows:**

18 **(a) To distribute funding to school districts for incentives to retain public education em-**  
19 **ployees who provide special education, including:**

20 **(A) Student loan forgiveness for special education teachers who commit to teaching**  
21 **special education in this state for at least 10 years.**

22 **(B) A minimum wage of \$25 per hour for classified employees who support students re-**  
23 **ceiving special education services.**

24 **(C) Retirement and family benefits for classified employees who have provided special**  
25 **education for 15 or more years through a public education provider. Retirement and family**  
26 **benefits may include increased contributions to retirement plans, child care stipends, tuition**  
27 **assistance for employees and employees' children and cash payments.**

28 **(D) A one-year, paid sabbatical with benefits to full-time special education teachers after**  
29 **every seven years of providing special education.**

30 **(E) Paid, summer professional development for special education, general education and**  
31 **classified staff that focuses on:**

**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 (i) Literacy instruction for students with dyslexia and students with intellectual and de-  
2 velopmental disabilities;

3 (ii) Inclusive educational practices;

4 (iii) Use of assistive technology;

5 (iv) Strategies for providing positive behavior support; and

6 (v) Other training identified by special education classified employees and teachers to  
7 improve their effectiveness and satisfaction at work.

8 (F) Pay for teachers and classified staff who participate in individualized education pro-  
9 gram meetings or assessment meetings during hours not covered by a collective bargaining  
10 agreement.

11 (G) A \$250 bonus each month for self-contained classroom special education teachers for  
12 every five special education students in the classroom for which the teacher is responsible.

13 (b) To provide support at the state level to improve access to the general education  
14 curriculum, including:

15 (A) The development of training and materials by inclusion specialists that will support  
16 the inclusion of students with intellectual and developmental disabilities, sensory disabilities  
17 and orthopedic disabilities into the general curriculum. The training and materials may in-  
18 clude:

19 (i) The development of alternate format textbooks and other instructional materials that  
20 are aligned with state standards;

21 (ii) The conversion of assessments and assignments into electronic format;

22 (iii) The provision of training for teachers about how to provide differentiated instruc-  
23 tion; and

24 (iv) The purchase of accessible manipulatives and alternate formats of printed materials.

25 (B) The purchase of assistive technology, including augmentative communication devices  
26 and adaptive tools for specialty courses such as science, music, art, and career and technical  
27 education, to ensure accessibility to all subjects for all students.

28 (C) The provision of high quality training to school districts to enable the school districts  
29 to have at least one inclusion specialist for every 25 students in the district who have intel-  
30 lectual, sensory or orthopedic disabilities.

31 (D) The creation of an office of inclusive supports at the Department of Education,  
32 staffed with at least three inclusion specialists to support school districts in providing:

33 (i) Inclusive classroom instruction for students with significant disabilities; and

34 (ii) Inclusive participation in extracurricular activities.

35 (E) The investment in adequate reading specialists at the state and district levels to fully  
36 implement evidence-based reading services to students with intellectual and developmental  
37 disabilities, dyslexia and sensory disabilities.

38 (c) To increase efficiencies in providing special education, including the development and  
39 implementation of a statewide, electronic individualized education program system.

40 (4) The State Board of Education may adopt any rules necessary for the administration  
41 of this section.

42 **SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this 2023 Act is repealed on July 1, 2025.

43 **SECTION 3.** This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public  
44 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect  
45 July 1, 2023.

