Senate Bill 604

Sponsored by Senator CAMPOS; Senators GELSER BLOUIN, MANNING JR, Representatives DEXTER, HUDSON, VALDERRAMA (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.**

Requires Department of Education to provide grants to school districts to carry out school district's child sexual abuse prevention instructional program. Requires department to submit to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to education report on status and impact of grants.

Requires department to create, fill and utilize one full-time equivalent position to oversee and administer grants and ensure school districts comply with requirements.

Establishes Erin's Law Grant Fund for purposes of providing grants.

Requires department to provide technical assistance to school districts in adoption and implementation of child sexual abuse prevention instructional program.

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to department for deposit in Erin's Law Grant Fund for biennium beginning July 1, 2023.

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT

- Relating to child sexual abuse prevention instructional programs; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 336.059.
- 4 Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:
 - SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Education shall provide grants from the Erin's Law Grant Fund established under section 2 of this 2023 Act to school districts to carry out the school district's child sexual abuse prevention instructional program under ORS 336.059. In determining a grant amount to provide to a school district, the department shall consider:
 - (a) The number of schools and students in each school in a school district;
 - (b) Geographic location and travel distances;
 - (c) Barriers to a school district's compliance with ORS 336.059; and
 - (d) A school district's access to outside agency child abuse prevention educators.
 - (2) A school district shall use grant moneys received under this section to:
 - (a) Provide professional training for administrators, teachers and other school personnel regarding communicating child sexual abuse prevention techniques to students, effects of child sexual abuse on children, receiving child sexual abuse reports and disclosure and mandated reporting;
 - (b) Create and implement program curriculum that is developmentally appropriate, culturally sensitive and evidence based;
 - (c) Partner with advocacy organizations that use certified advocates, as defined in ORS 40.264, who have knowledge of and training in child sexual abuse prevention to assist the school district in implementing the school district's program;
 - (d) Partner with outside agency child abuse prevention educators to provide program instruction; and
 - (e) Hire, train, retain and maintain other resources that support the implementation of the school district's program, including advocates, therapists, school nurses, mental health

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providers and school-based health centers.

- (3) The department shall monitor the capacity and needs of and provide technical assistance to grantees.
- (4) The department shall conduct a biennial evaluation of programs that receive grants under this section. The evaluation shall include measurement of outcomes that align with:
 - (a) Current research regarding child sexual abuse prevention;
 - (b) Compliance with ORS 336.059; and
 - (c) Subsequent child sexual abuse reporting outcomes.
- (5) The department shall adopt rules necessary to carry out the provision of this section, including requirements for grant eligibility under this section.
- (6) On or before September 15 of each odd-numbered year, the department shall submit to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to education a report on the status and impact of grants made to programs under this section. The report shall include changes in the capacity of school districts and the results of any biennial evaluations conducted in accordance with subsection (4) of this section.
- SECTION 2. The Erin's Law Grant Fund is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Erin's Law Grant Fund shall be credited to the fund. All moneys in the Erin's Law Grant Fund are continuously appropriated to the Department of Education for the purposes of awarding grants pursuant to section 1 of this 2023 Act and paying the costs and expenses of the department related to the administration and implementation of ORS 336.059 and section 1 of this 2023 Act.

SECTION 3. ORS 336.059 is amended to read:

- 336.059. (1) Each school district board shall adopt a child sexual abuse prevention instructional program for students in kindergarten through grade 12.
 - (2) School districts must include in the program:
- (a) Developmentally appropriate, culturally sensitive and evidence-based instruction for each grade level;
- (b) A minimum of four instructional sessions per school year, with each year's instruction building on the previous year's instruction;
- (c) Age-appropriate curriculum including role-playing, discussion, activities and books to educate students regarding child sexual abuse prevention;
- (d) Instruction providing students with the knowledge and tools to communicate incidents of sexual abuse;
- (e) Instruction regarding "safe touch," "unsafe touch," "safe secrets," "unsafe secrets," and how to escape and report a sexual abuse situation;
- (f) Techniques to recognize child sexual abuse, skills to reduce vulnerability and encouragement to report child sexual abuse;
 - (g) An evaluation component with measurable outcomes;
- (h) A professional training component for administrators, teachers and other school personnel regarding communicating child sexual abuse prevention techniques to students, effects of child sexual abuse on children, receiving child sexual abuse reports and disclosures and mandated reporting; and
- (i) A parental involvement component to inform parents about child sexual abuse topics, including characteristics of offenders, "grooming" behaviors and how to discuss child sexual abuse prevention with children.

- (3) Program instruction may be delivered by instructors including teachers, school counselors and outside agency prevention educators, provided the instructors have knowledge of and training in child sexual abuse prevention.
- (4) The Department of Education shall provide technical assistance to school districts in the development and implementation of the program required by this section.
- <u>SECTION 4.</u> The Department of Education shall create, fill and utilize one full-time equivalent position within the department to:
 - (1) Oversee and administer the provision of grants under section 1 of this 2023 Act.
- (2) Ensure school districts comply with grant requirements for grants provided under section 1 of this 2023 Act.
- (3) Work with school districts to ensure compliance with all requirements under ORS 336.059.
- (4) Create an oversight program to ensure school districts stay in compliance with all requirements under ORS 336.059 and section 1 of this 2023 Act.

SECTION 5. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Department of Education, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$20,000,000, for deposit in the Erin's Law Grant Fund established in section 2 of this 2023 Act, which may be expended for the purposes of carrying out ORS 336.059 and section 1 of this 2023 Act.