

Senate Bill 657

Sponsored by Senator BONHAM (at the request of Senator Noah Robinson) (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 **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: Requires a school district board to pay teachers of certain subjects at least half of the school district budget. (Flesch Readability Score: 71.7).

Requires school district boards to ensure that a specified percentage of expenditures of the school district are paid as compensation to teachers of core academic subjects or manual skills.

Declares an emergency, effective July 1, 2025.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to school district budget expenditures; amending ORS 328.542; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 328.542 is amended to read:

328.542. (1) Subject to the Local Budget Law (ORS 294.305 to 294.565), [*and*] to sections 11 and 11b, Article XI, Oregon Constitution, **and to subsection (3) of this section**, each school district board shall prepare annually or biennially the budget of the school district and shall certify ad valorem property taxes to the assessor as provided by law.

(2) In addition to the requirements prescribed by ORS 294.305 to 294.565, a school district must include at least one member of the educational equity advisory committee of the school district on the budget committee.

(3)(a) A school district board shall ensure that at least 50 percent of the expenditures of the school district are paid as compensation to teachers who spend 75 percent or more of the school day teaching core academic subjects or manual skills.

(b) As used in this subsection:

(A) "Compensation" includes salary, health care and retirement benefits.

(B) "Core academic subjects" includes mathematics, science, language arts, history, geography, economics, civics, the arts and world languages.

(C) "Expenditures" means amounts paid from the general purpose grant distributed from the State School Fund.

(D) "Manual skills" includes welding, woodworking and other related practical skills.

SECTION 2. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect July 1, 2025.

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.