

HB 4066 -3, -4 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 2/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure makes a series of changes to Oregon education law. It aligns requirements for the Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) Board of Directors regarding student members and frequency of board meetings with those of the seven public universities. It allows education service district (ESD) boards to offer board members a stipend of up to \$500 per month. It updates references to federal statute in the Military Interstate Children's Compact. It grants rulemaking authority to the State Board of Education in areas of statute that incorrectly grant such authority to the Oregon Department of Education.

Fiscal impact: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

Revenue impact: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-3 The amendment exempts school districts from including a member of its educational equity committee on its budget committee, alters the reporting requirements for Portland State University's study of farmworker labor standards and workplace protections, and extends the date by which education service districts must comply with state light bulb requirements.

-4 The amendment exempts school districts from including a member of its educational equity committee on its budget committee, alters the reporting requirements for Portland State University's study of farmworker labor standards and workplace protections, and extends the date by which education service districts must comply with state light bulb requirements. It also requires OHSU to collect graduate student contact information and OHSU graduate student workers to waive privacy rights as a condition of employment.

BACKGROUND:

Meetings of the Oregon Health and Science University Board of Directors

In 1995, the Legislative Assembly converted Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) from a public university to a public corporation and established a board of directors. Under ORS 353.040, the OHSU Board of Directors must meet at least once every three months; in practice, this means the board meets at least five times per year. Under ORS 352.076, public university governing boards must meet at least four times per year.

Senate Bill 273 (2023) made a number of changes to the composition and requirements of the seven public university governing boards, which do not include OHSU. In addition to adding graduate and undergraduate student members, the measure prohibited those student members from participating in collective bargaining issues affecting students.

Stipends for District Boards

House Bill 2753 (2023) allowed local school district boards to offer stipends up to \$500 per month to members, with provisions for reimbursing certain expenses and for members to refuse the stipend. Education service district boards were not included in that legislation.

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.

Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

During 2025, the Military Interstate Children's Compact notified the Oregon Department of Education of an error in the compact's model law that every state, including Oregon, enacted. The error is in the definition of "active duty," which should not include references to 32 USC 502(f).

State Board of Education Rulemaking Authority

The rulemaking body for the Oregon Department of Education is the State Board of Education. Occasionally, legislation is enacted that erroneously gives rulemaking authority to the Department rather than the State Board.

School District Budget Committee

Senate Bill 732 (2021) enacted a requirement that school districts establish equity advisory committees, and House Bill 2453 (2025) modified the structure within which those committees operate. Current law requires school district boards to place a member of the equity advisory committee on the district's budget committee. However, some school districts report challenges locating a member of the equity advisory committee who is willing to serve on the budget committee.

Study Conducted by Portland State University

In 2025, House Bill 2548 required the Center for Public Service at Portland State University (PSU) to conduct a study to examine the labor standards, working experiences, and workplace protections for farmworkers in Oregon. The measure required two interim reports starting in May 2026 and required the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to submit the reports on behalf of PSU. In order for HECC to meet the May deadline, PSU would need to complete its report by March. Given the current status of the project, they will be unable to do so.

Lamps Purchased by Education Service Districts

In 2023, House Bill 2531 prohibited the sale and the distribution in or into Oregon of new screw or bayonet-base type compact fluorescent lamps and new pin-base type compact fluorescent lamps and linear fluorescent lamps. House Bill 2531 provided exemptions for certain scientific purposes, image capturing purposes, research purposes, and manufacturing purposes. In 2025, House Bill 2307 extended the deadline to comply with this law for school districts.

Employment of OHSU Graduate Students

Since 2022, graduate students at Oregon's seven public universities have been required to provide contact information and waive privacy rights to that information as a condition of employment at the university (ORS 352.227). The federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) governs the privacy rights of students at all institutions of education. Oregon law (ORS 243.804) requires public employers to provide reasonable access to employees within a union's bargaining unit.

The responsibilities of universities with regard to FERPA and federal labor laws is the subject of changing guidance from the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), which issued both an advice memorandum and a general counsel memorandum on the subject in May 2023 and August 2024, respectively. The August 2024 memorandum was rescinded in February 2025, and new guidance has not yet been issued.