

DRAFT

SUMMARY

Directs Chief Education Office to design and implement pilot program to decrease rates of school absenteeism. Sunsets pilot program January 2, 2020.

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to office for purpose of pilot program.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to school absenteeism; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, “trauma-informed approach” means an approach that recognizes the signs and symptoms of trauma in students, families and staff and responds by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures and practices for the purposes of resisting the reoccurrence of trauma and promoting resiliency.

(2) The Chief Education Office, in coordination with the Oregon Health Authority and the Department of Education, shall design and implement a pilot program to decrease rates of school absenteeism by using trauma-informed approaches to education, health services and intervention strategies that are based in schools and take advantage of community resources.

(3)(a) A school district may apply to participate in the pilot program if the school district has at least one school in the school district with:

(A) A school-based health center; or

(B) A school-based system for providing behavioral health services

1 and care coordination.

2 (b) A school district may submit an application jointly with one or
3 more community partners that will participate in the pilot program
4 with the school district.

5 (4) The office shall prescribe the timelines by which an applicant
6 may apply to participate in the pilot program and the form of the ap-
7 plication.

8 (5) The office shall accept an applicant to participate in the pilot
9 program based on the applicant's ability to demonstrate that the ap-
10 plicant will develop and implement a coordinated strategic plan to de-
11 crease rates of school absenteeism by using trauma-informed
12 approaches to education, health services and intervention strategies.
13 The plan must:

14 (a) Coordinate the services provided by:

15 (A) The school;

16 (B) The school-based health center or the administrator of the
17 school-based system described in subsection (3)(a)(B) of this section;
18 and

19 (C) Coordinated care organizations, public health entities, nonprofit
20 youth service providers, community-based organizations, social justice
21 groups and similar groups that are located in the community;

22 (b) Require professional development and support for school staff,
23 including educators, school district professionals, counselors, nurses,
24 classified staff and other staff of the school district to create a culture
25 in the school district and community that is informed about how to
26 understand, recognize and respond to trauma;

27 (c) Provide for at least one full-time trauma specialist who:

28 (A) Is permanently assigned at the school-based health center or
29 at the location where the school-based system described in subsection
30 (3)(a)(B) of this section is provided; and

31 (B) Oversees the implementation of the plan, including coordinating

1 the services described in paragraph (a) of this subsection and providing
2 the professional development and support described in paragraph (b)
3 of this subsection;

4 (d) Indicate how services coordinated under paragraph (a) of this
5 subsection are provided based on a trauma-informed approach and
6 with an understanding, recognition and responsiveness to the effects
7 of trauma on education, absenteeism and school completion;

8 (e) Use evidence-based and evidence-informed approaches and na-
9 tional models that are tailored to the community to ensure that data
10 is collected and the effectiveness of the pilot program is determined;

11 (f) Provide matching community funding, or resources that are the
12 monetary equivalent of matching funding, in a ratio determined by the
13 office by rule; and

14 (g) Pursue additional funding opportunities, including funding un-
15 der the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (P.L. 114-95).

16 (6) The office shall identify at least five applicants to participate in
17 the pilot program.

18 (7) The office shall award grants to pilot program participants from
19 moneys appropriated to the office for the pilot program.

20 (8)(a) The office, in collaboration with the Oregon Health Authority
21 and the Department of Education, shall provide coordination among
22 school districts participating in the pilot program.

23 (b) The office may coordinate with a statewide nonprofit organiza-
24 tion that has experience in supporting school-based health centers and
25 student health organizations for the organization to provide technical
26 assistance to school districts participating in the pilot program.

27 (9) Each participating school district shall provide regular reports
28 on the progress of the pilot program to the office to enable the office
29 to:

30 (a) Determine the effectiveness of the pilot program; and

31 (b) Submit a report and recommendations for legislation to the in-

1 **terim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to education as**
2 **required under subsection (10) of this section.**

3 **(10) No later than October 15, 2019, the Chief Education Office, the**
4 **Oregon Health Authority and the Department of Education, in collab-**
5 **oration with the statewide nonprofit organization described in sub-**
6 **section (8) of this section, shall submit a report to the interim**
7 **committees of the Legislative Assembly related to education. The re-**
8 **port must provide individual and comprehensive evaluations on the**
9 **outcomes of the pilot program and include any recommendations for**
10 **legislation based on the results of the pilot program.**

11 **SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2016 Act is repealed on January 2, 2020.**

12 **SECTION 3. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropri-**
13 **ation, there is appropriated to the Chief Education Office, for the**
14 **biennium beginning July 1, 2015, out of the General Fund, the amount**
15 **of \$5,750,000, which may be expended for the pilot program designed**
16 **and implemented under section 1 of this 2016 Act.**

17 **SECTION 4. This 2016 Act being necessary for the immediate pres-**
18 **ervation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is de-**
19 **clared to exist, and this 2016 Act takes effect on its passage.**