



PRESS RELEASE

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PRESS ADVISORY

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Student Assessment Bill of Rights Signed by Governor

Bringing Choice and Information back to Parents

SALEM – Today [House Bill 2655](#), a bill championed by Representative Lew Frederick (D-Portland), Representative Chris Gorsek (D-Gresham), and Senator Tim Knopp (R-Bend), was signed into law by Governor Kate Brown.

Under HB 2655 each Oregon school must notify parents or guardians of the following information about summative assessments that will be administered to their students:

- The names and types of statewide summative assessments that will be administered.
- When statewide summative assessments will be administered.
- The per-student cost of the assessments.
- Notice of the right to opt out of these assessments and explanation of the process.
- Explanation of who will have access to a student's assessment results and how that information may be used.

Parents are often encouraged to take an active role in their children's school experience, and this law will empower them by ensuring that they will know about the testing process and their rights, and by providing a consistent process statewide. The "opt-out" provisions of this bill will sunset in six years. While there is not now professional or public consensus regarding the efficacy or developmental appropriateness of these tests, in six years we should be able to decide with more confidence whether they should be mandatory for all, should continue as an option, or something else. Federal policy is also under review.

HB 2655 also establishes and strengthens protections for student data privacy, clarifying that a student's summative assessment and other test scores belong to the student and his

or her parent or guardian, and clarifying the rights of parents to limit the use and collection of student data.

Thanking the Governor for signing this bill into law, Rep. Frederick noted: “Turmoil and controversy about these tests, among professional educators, among education advocates, and among civil rights advocates, argue against imposing a universal and inflexible mandate at this time. In six years we should have a better handle on whether the tests do what they’re supposed to do, whether the time and expense involved are worth it, and whether a universal mandate would be an improvement.”

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