



SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

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Students with Brain Injuries Get Support for Healing Under Bill Passed in Oregon Senate Tuesday

SALEM, OR – Legislation moving ahead in Oregon will require public schools to give students the time and support they need to heal, learn, and thrive after a brain injury. House Bill 3007 says schools must set up temporary accommodations for these kids within ten school days of getting written notice a child has suffered such an injury.

“This bill ensures that Oregon students recovering from concussions or other brain injuries receive the necessary academic, behavioral, and social-emotional accommodations for a safe and effective return turn school,” **Senator Courtney Neron Misslin (D – Wilsonville, Tigard, King City & Sherwood)**, the bill’s chief sponsor, said before the Oregon Senate passed the measure Tuesday. “Just as we would never ask a student with a broken leg to run before recovering, we must not expect a student with a concussion to fully engage in academic tasks without appropriate accommodations.”

A concussion or similar brain injury not only interferes with some typical aspects of the school day—like concentrating, tolerating bright lights, retaining new information, and regulating emotions—but soldiering through these activities despite a head trauma can slow the child’s healing or lead to long-term cognitive difficulties, mental health struggles, and academic setbacks.

Senator Lisa Reynolds, MD (D – Portland) underscored the importance of providing support for injured students. “As a pediatrician, I certainly understand the impacts of inappropriately treated injuries, physically and emotionally,” **Senator Reynolds** said on the Oregon Senate floor yesterday. “If an injury does not heal properly, it can have negative effects for the near future if not the rest of that child’s life, and that is especially true with traumatic brain injuries. Passing this bill is the right thing to.”

House Bill 3007 received minor amendments in the Oregon Senate and will return to the Oregon House of Representatives for a final vote. Senate passage was unanimous Tuesday.

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