



CONFEDERATION OF OREGON SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

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TO: House Committee on Education

FR: Morgan Allen, Confederation of Oregon School Administrators (COSA)

RE: Senate Bill 4

Chair Doherty and members of the House Committee on Education:

On behalf of COSA's 2300+ statewide members, I would like to offer comments in support of Senate Bill 4. This legislation is the result of over 9 months of negotiation, and more importantly, collaboration with Senate President Peter Courtney, his staff, representatives of school districts and school employees and the advocacy and health organizations that developed Oregon's PE law in 2007.

The bill reflects a compromise that recognizes the current fiscal challenges for schools and offers a reasonable path to ensuring that Oregon students receive recommended levels of instruction in Physical Education.

Senate Bill 4 includes the following major components:

1. Proposed New Timeline for Implementing PE Instructional Minute Requirements (page 3, line 22 through page 4, line 2)

- 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years – No minute requirements to allow school districts additional time to prepare.
- 2019-2020 – Elementary required 120 minutes (80% of required minutes)
- 2020-2021 – Elementary required full compliance 150 minutes
- 2021-2022 – Middle School required 180 minutes (80% of required minutes)
- 2022-2023 – Middle School required full compliance 225 minutes

2. Technical Changes to Address School Schedule Differences (page 1, line 14 through page 2, line 2)

- This language allows the State Board of Education and ODE to prorate PE minute requirements when schools have closures, holidays, inclement weather or other irregular class schedules such as a four-day week. Without these changes, school districts would be required to meet the minute requirements each week regardless of how many school days are scheduled.

3. Safety Valve When Budgets Are Below Current Service Level (page 2, lines 3-13)

- This language suspends the minute requirements during times of recession or budget cuts to the State School Fund that bring the allocation below Current Service Level (CSL). School districts are required to meet the minute requirements when the State School Fund budget is sufficient to meet CSL.

4. Limited Flexibility for Elementary Teachers to Instruct All Students in PE (Page 2, line 23 through page 3, line 19)

- This language allows up to 45 minutes of the required PE instructional minutes in grades K-5/6 to be taught by teachers who have the elementary multiple subject endorsement to all students in the school. Currently, they are only allowed to deliver PE instruction to students who are in their classroom cohort. This will provide additional flexibility for elementary schools to meet the minute requirement; these minutes must still meet PE standards.

5. A Process to Continue Collaboration Towards Implementing Middle School PE Minutes (Page 4, lines 21-45)

- All parties have agreed that the remaining challenge is to find a pathway to ensuring students receive appropriate amounts of instruction in PE while in middle school. The bill sets up a process for the Oregon Department of Education, PE stakeholders and K-12 stakeholders to continue discussion about middle school implementation challenges and report back to the Legislature any recommendations by November 15, 2018.

Senate Bill 4 has the support of organizations that advocate for PE, as well as COSA, OSBA and OEA. It passed the Senate on a 29-0 vote. We urge your support of this compromise approach to ensuring PE is a key component of a well-rounded public education.