



STATE OF OREGON

INTEROFFICE MEMO

TO: Governor Atiyeh

DATE: July 11, 1985

FROM: Bob Oliver *BO*

SUBJECT: HB 2943

JUL 15 1985  
Governor Atiyeh

Here it is!

Passed the House 39 to 10 and the Senate 19 to 1.

After the hours I invested in this basic education bill, it would be impossible for me to recommend anything other than approval.

cc: Gerry  
Denny

ONE OF THE TWO LAST BILLS I  
SIGNED FROM THE 63<sup>RD</sup> OREGON  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY —



Contains  
Recycled  
Materials

Enrolled  
**House Bill 2943**

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION (at the request of Governor Atiyeh)

CHAPTER .....

AN ACT

Relating to education; and prescribing an effective date.

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

**SECTION 1.** (1) Elementary and secondary students in Oregon public schools shall be provided with a basic education. The primary focal point for providing elementary and secondary education is the local school classroom in the local school district, but assuring that this education is provided is a shared responsibility of parents, the state, school boards, school administrators, teachers, students and the community.

(2) In order to insure that elementary and secondary school students throughout Oregon have the opportunity to acquire the essential learning skills and knowledge which all adults commonly need for personal fulfillment and career success, the state assumes primary responsibility for funding of basic education. The state also may aid school districts in funding the additional requirements specified in subsection (3) of this section.

(3) School districts have responsibility for implementing basic education through the operation, administration and supervision of schools. School boards also shall establish additional instructional programs beyond the basic education requirements and shall provide a comprehensive curriculum to advance personal, educational and career goals.

(4) School boards shall develop procedures involving students, parents, school board members, administrators, teachers and the community in order to strengthen involvement in the education process of all those who share in the responsibility for providing elementary and secondary education.

(5) School boards are responsible to assure that school administrators and teachers carry out the curriculum decisions and instructional practices of the district that will provide learning experiences to encourage individual students to achieve.

**SECTION 2.** Basic education subject areas for students are:

(1) Language arts, emphasizing reading, listening, speaking and written communication in the English language, and including, at the option of the district, instruction in foreign languages.

(2) Mathematics, emphasizing fundamental numerical concepts, computational skills, problem solving, spatial concepts, measurement and statistics.

(3) Science, emphasizing basic scientific knowledge and principles.

(4) Economics and social studies, emphasizing the history, geography, cultures and governments of Oregon, the United States and the world.

(5) Health and physical education.

(6) Music and art programs, emphasizing appreciation of the arts and developing basic skills therein.

**SECTION 3.** In order to develop an accountability structure for providing basic education to elementary and secondary students in Oregon pursuant to its powers and duties under ORS 326.051, the State Board of Education shall:

(1) In conjunction with local school officials, administrators and teachers, define the common core curriculum goals for elementary and secondary schools, as described in section 2 of this 1985 Act, in terms of the essential learning skills and knowledge which students are expected to possess as a result of their schooling experience.

(2) Develop a model core curriculum which will describe clearly the expected learner outcomes at selected grade levels, for use by local school districts to achieve the basic education described by the state. It is recognized that additional instructional programs beyond the core curriculum are necessary to provide a modern comprehensive curriculum to high school students to prepare them for further post-secondary education or to enter employment. The curriculum guidelines shall describe the essential knowledge and skills expected in sufficient detail to provide direction to districts for development of curriculum, instruction and assessment, but the board shall not prescribe methods of instruction.

(3) Prepare, acquire or approve tests which measure the achievement of students in acquiring the essential learning skills and knowledge which are expected as a result of the provision of basic education. The board shall take into consideration the needs and diversities of local school districts and the development and alignment of curriculum, teaching and testing already in effect in a school district. Local districts shall annually administer approved tests to assess student performance in at least three grade levels in the essential learning skills and knowledge specified in the core curriculum. Tests need not be uniform between school districts, but must be in a form that permits valid comparisons between districts.

(4) Establish by rule test scores indicating satisfactory performance on the achievement tests. Schools shall develop and provide specific instructional assistance for students who do not perform satisfactorily and who do not meet established standards on such achievement tests.

(5) Develop model guidelines and procedures for use in school districts to notify parents or legal guardians of individual students' performance and test results and for use of this information to improve curriculum, teaching and student performance.

(6) Report publicly the results of the achievement tests by releasing average scores for the state and for individual school districts for each grade tested. Public dissemination of the test scores pursuant to this subsection shall be in a manner and form which does not allow identification of individual students' performances.

**SECTION 4.** The State Board of Education shall assure that technical assistance, if requested, is available to local school districts through the Department of Education, education service districts, local school districts or other groups or agencies with a demonstrated technical expertise in the following areas:

(1) Alignment of curriculum, teaching and testing to aid in the measurement of student performance, teaching and effectiveness of the curriculum in basic education subjects and other curriculum areas at each grade level.

(2) Development of performance evaluation systems for teachers and administrators.

(3) Staff development programs for teachers and administrators.

(4) Selection, acquisition and use of curriculum materials and educational technology.

(5) Improvement of the school, classroom or other learning environment and the use of instructional time.

(6) Increasing expectations for student achievement.

(7) Such other assistance as the board determines will promote educational excellence in public schools.

**SECTION 5.** To provide school districts with flexibility to adapt to local conditions and to conserve local resources for the instructional enterprise, state regulations and paperwork requirements applicable to schools and school districts shall be maintained at the minimum level necessary for implementation of this 1985 Act and the provisions of ORS chapters 326, 327, 330, 336, 337 and 339. The State Board of Education shall review its administrative rules and policies and shall repeal rules or requirements which are not necessary to implementation of statutory policy.

**SECTION 6.** This 1985 Act shall be known and may be cited as the Basic Education Act of 1985.

**SECTION 7.** Sections 1 to 6 of this Act are added to and made a part of ORS chapter 326.

**SECTION 8.** This Act shall take effect only if House Joint Resolution 4 (1985) is approved by the people. If this Act takes effect, its effective date is July 1, 1986.

Passed by House June 12, 1985

Repassed by House June 19, 1985

*Ramona J. Kennedy*  
Chief Clerk of House  
*Vera D'Arcy*  
Speaker of House

Received by Governor:

2:40 P.M. July 12, 1985

Approved:

7:02 P.M. 7-5, 1985

*Robert J. Cahill*  
Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

..... M., 1985

Passed by Senate June 19, 1985

*Philip J. Hefner*  
President of Senate

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Secretary of State

**Enrolled**

# **Senate Concurrent Resolution 15**

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON RULES

**Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

The Senate and the House of Representatives of the Sixty-third Legislative Assembly shall adjourn sine die at 4:20 p. m. on the 21st day of June 1985.

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Adopted by Senate June 21, 1985

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Secretary of Senate

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President of Senate

Adopted by House June 21, 1985

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Speaker of House