LC 1414 2019 Regular Session 12/10/18 (TSB/ps)

DRAFT

SUMMARY

Directs Department of Education to prepare and make available statement that discloses potential health risks of wireless network technology and requires public and private schools to distribute statement to employees, students and parents or guardians of students. Requires department to adopt by rule guidelines for including in school curricula, assemblies, open houses, meetings between parents and teachers and related settings information concerning hazards of exposure to microwave radiation and how to use wireless devices more safely to reduce risk.

Requires department and Oregon Health Authority to conduct review of peer-reviewed, independently funded studies of effects of exposure to microwave radiation in schools and similar environments, particularly exposure that results from use of wireless network technologies, to develop recommendations to schools in this state for practices and alternative technologies that would eliminate students' exposure to harmful microwave radiation and report results of review and recommendations to interim committee of Legislative Assembly related to education not later than September 15, 2020.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT

- Relating to exposure to radiation in schools in this state; and declaring an
 emergency.
- 4 Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:
- 5 SECTION 1. (1)(a) The Department of Education shall:
- 6 (A) Prepare a statement that discloses the potential health risks 7 of wireless network technology; and
- 8 (B) Make the statement described in this paragraph available for 9 distribution by public and private elementary and secondary schools 10 of this state.

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- (b) The department by rule shall offer guidance for including in school curricula, assemblies, open houses, meetings between parents and teachers and related settings information about the hazards of exposure to microwave radiation and how to use wireless devices more safely to reduce risk.
- (2) Every school district each year must distribute the statement described in subsection (1) of this section to the employees of the school district and to students and parents and legal guardians of students in the school district.
- (3) Every private school in this state with students in any grade from kindergarten through grade 12 each year must distribute the statement described in subsection (1) of this section to the employees of the school and to students and parents or guardians of students in the school.
- 15 <u>SECTION 2.</u> (1)(a) The Department of Education, in cooperation 16 with the Oregon Health Authority, shall:
- (A) Review peer-reviewed, independently funded studies of the biological effects of exposure to microwave radiation, particularly exposure that results from the use of wireless network technologies in schools or similar environments;
 - (B) Develop recommendations to schools in this state for practices and alternative technologies that would eliminate students' exposure to microwave radiation that the studies identified as harmful; and
 - (C) Report the results of the review and the recommendations the department develops under this paragraph to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to education not later than September 15, 2020.
- (b) The review described in paragraph (a) of this subsection must, at a minimum, consist of a literature review of independently funded scientific studies that examine the biological effects of exposure to microwave radiation on children's health.

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(2) The department shall adopt as a policy in procuring, or approx
ing the procurement of, information technology or other technolog
for or on behalf of schools in this state that the department will no
procure or approve the procurement of technologies that commercia
insurance policies have deemed not insurable because of hazards of
harmful effects that are inherent in the use of the technologies.

SECTION 3. (1) Sections 1 and 2 of this 2019 Act become operative on January 1, 2020.

(2) The Department of Education may adopt rules and take any other action before the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section that is necessary to enable the department, on and after the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section, to exercise all of the duties, functions and powers conferred on the department by sections 1 and 2 of this 2019 Act.

SECTION 4. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect on its passage.