

Synopsis of House Bill 2797

2009 Home Education Bill

Core concepts

- Remove the additional hurdles that are currently imposed on private home education, which are not imposed on private school-based education.
- Free up Education Service District resources to focus on their core mission instead of processing paperwork from home educated students.

The key to this bill is **Section 6**, which repeals ORS 339.035 (the law that requires home educated students to register with their Education Service District and to take nationally-normed standardized tests). There are no equivalent requirements for students in private schools.

All of the other sections in this bill are required as a result of repealing the notification and testing requirements. Specifically:

Section 1 amends ORS 339.460 which already allows home educated students to participate in interscholastic activities if they meet the same academic standards as students in public school. Under this bill, home educated students are still required to either take a standardized test or otherwise prove to the school's satisfaction that the students meet the academic eligibility requirements in order to participate in interscholastic activities.

Section 2 amends ORS 339.990 to delete the reference to the repealed registration and testing law (ORS 339.035).

Section 3 amends ORS 334.175 to delete the home education registration requirement from the list of ESD responsibilities.

Section 4 amends ORS 336.668 to remove the reference to registration from the definition of "Qualified homeschooled child".

Section 5 amends ORS 807.066 to change the documentation requirements for home educated students to apply for a driver's license or permit. Under current law, home educated students must get a letter from the ESD to verify that they are home-educated. Under this bill, parents would provide that verification.

Sections 7 and 8 are implementation provisions.