

**REVENUE: No Revenue Impact**

**FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued**

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference
<b>Vote:</b>	6 - 0 - 1
<b>Yeas:</b>	Dallum, Girod, Holvey, Lim, Riley, Witt
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	Barnhart
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Ellen Osoinach, Committee Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	2/26, 3/12

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Requires Department of Human Services to transfer JOBS Plus participants' Individual Education Accounts to Oregon Student Assistance Commission. Requires Oregon Student Assistance Commission to establish a scholarship fund for current or former JOBS Plus Program participants.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Historical use of unclaimed funds
- Current amount of unclaimed funds available to be transferred

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** JOBS Plus is a state subsidized work program. Currently, when a JOBS Plus participant has been employed for thirty days, the Department of Human Services (DHS) begins collecting from the employer \$1 for every hour worked by the participant. DHS places that money into the participant's Individual Education Account (IEA). IEA money that is never claimed by the participant remains with DHS.

Participants claim the funds in their IEAs by sending a letter to DHS certifying their eligibility. Upon receipt of the letter DHS transfers the participant's IEA to the Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC). Participants have five years after transfer to OSAC to use their IEA funds. Any funds remaining after the five year deadline are transferred by OSAC to the Oregon Opportunity Grant Fund.

HB 2246 requires DHS to transfer all IEA money (claimed and unclaimed) to OSAC. OSAC must establish a scholarship fund for current or former JOBS Plus Program participants. The scholarship is funded with IEA money that remains unexpended five years after receipt.