74th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2007 Regular Session

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee on Education

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass and Rescind the Subsequent Referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means

MEASURE:

CARRIER:

HB 2848

Rep. Gelser

Vote: 9 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Clem, Dallum, Greenlick, Komp, Krummel, Lim, Roblan, Whisnant, Buckley

Nays: 0 Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Derrick Olsen, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/13 (Education Innovation Subcommittee), 3/29 (Education Innovation Subcommittee), 4/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Modifies certain educational class requirements from years to credits. Requires a school district to award a diploma to a student who does not satisfy credit requirements, but instead meets requirements established by rule by State Board of Education. Requires school district or public charter school to award an alternative certificate to students who do not satisfy diploma requirements if student does meet requirement set by board of district or charter school. Allows students with modified diplomas or alternative certificates to participate in graduation ceremonies. Applies to students at public charter schools who meet credit requirements either on or after July 1, 2009 if charter school specifies that Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 329.451 applies to the school prior to effective date of Act, or on or after July 1, 2011. Requires schools to make modified or alternative diplomas first available during 2008-2009 school year. Applies to public charter schools that enter in a charter or renew a charter on or after effective date of Act. Requires districts to award children with disabilities a document certifying completion of program requirements. Requires districts to give children with disabilities, who have an individualized educational program, an individualized summary of performance when child completes high school. Apples to school 2008-2009 school year. Declares an emergency effective July 1, 2007.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Consistency of requirements
- Situations of students in districts giving certificates of attendance and not alternative diplomas
- Federal role in types of diplomas
- Difference between alternative and modified diplomas
- Consistency, or lack thereof, from school district to school district and potential statewide standard for a modified diploma

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Currently, school districts may choose to issue modified diplomas but they are not required to do so. HB 2848 would require school districts to issue modified diplomas and alternative certificates to those that qualify, and give these students the option of participating in graduation ceremonies. HB 2848 also requires the State Board of Education to establish statewide standards for a modified diploma, and school districts or public charter schools to establish standards for an alternative certificate.