

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference

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: 4/12 (Subcommittee on Education Innovation), 4/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows Department of Education to establish Mentoring Oregon's Talented and Gifted (MOTAG) Program to provide mentoring and resources that help talented and gifted students access education and training beyond high school. Establishes Mentoring Oregon's Talented and Gifted Program Fund. Continuously appropriates moneys in fund to department for program. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2007.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Need to fully engage talented and gifted (TAG) students
- Need to prevent TAG students from dropping out of high school
- Interest in community members in mentoring TAG students
- ASPIRE Program as a model
- Optional vs. mandatory program for Department of Education
- Level of state spending on support to TAG programs
- Cost for Department of Education to start and run program

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Amendment deleted language placing appropriated funds in the Mentoring Oregon's Talented and Gifted Program Fund, but continues to allow money from donations and grants to be placed in the fund. Ways and Means philosophically opposes state agencies placing appropriated money in special accounts that draw interest to the agency rather than the general treasury.

BACKGROUND: HB 3310-A authorizes the Department of Education to “establish the Mentoring Oregon's Talented and Gifted (MOTAG) Program to provide information about financial aid and education and training options beyond high school to talented and gifted children who are students in kindergarten through grade 12 public schools. The goals of the program are to: (a) Provide mentoring and resources to help these students access education and training beyond high school; (b) Help schools build a sustainable community of volunteer mentors; and (c) Educate these students and families about the scholarship application process and other options for paying for post-secondary education.

The MOTAG program “shall bring together talented and gifted students, school staff, community volunteers and parents to help students overcome obstacles to their continuing education. The program may provide training, technical assistance and other resources to Oregon high schools on how to establish a volunteer-based program. Adult volunteers who are trained through the program may provide mentoring, training and encouragement to students about post-secondary options and financial aid.”

HB 3310-A has a subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

4/17/2007 9:01:00 AM

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.