74th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2007 Regular Session MEASURE: HR 3

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY CARRIER: Rep Cannon

**House Committee on Education** 

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact FISCAL: No fiscal impact

 Action:
 Be Adopted

 Vote:
 8 - 0 - 1

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

**Nays:** 0 **Exc.:** Komp

**Prepared By:** Derrick Olsen, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 3/16

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Urges Oregon universities, community colleges and secondary schools to encourage Oregon students to learn Mandarin Chinese and to explore opportunities to study in China.

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Importance of Oregon students learning Mandarin Chinese and studying abroad in China
- Importance of starting young when studying a foreign language
- Importance of China to Oregon's economic future
- Utilizing Chinese-American talent in Oregon
- Foreign language curriculum

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

**BACKGROUND:** HR 3 aims to encourage more students to study Mandarin Chinese and participate in foreign exchange programs in China. According to Mt. Holyoke College, "Mandarin Chinese is by far the most-spoken first language in the world, but it is only the 8th-most-popular language to study in the U.S."