

74th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2007 Regular Session
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
Senate Committee on Education & General Government

MINORITY REPORT
MEASURE: SB 621 A
CARRIER: Sen. Kruse

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Signers of the Report: Sen. Kruse and Sen. Morse
Prepared By: Dana Richardson, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 3/22, 4/3, 4/19

WHAT THE MINORITY REPORT DOES: Applies Teacher Standards and Practices Commission standards of fitness and power to discipline or suspend to registered charter school teachers. Applies additional teacher registration standards to new applications and requests for renewal that occur after effective date of Act. Declares an emergency; effective July 1, 2007.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of provisions of the measure
- Control of teacher credentials in charter schools
- Application of licensure requirements to teachers and administrators
- Determination of “good moral character” standard
- Improved outcomes if higher licensure requirements are adopted
- Importance of flexibility for charter schools

EFFECT OF MINORITY AMENDMENT: Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND: In 1999, the Legislature passed legislation allowing the formation of charter schools. That law required charter schools to have at least half of their teaching and administrative staff licensed with the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission. Teachers who were not licensed had to be registered with the Commission. Registration included a description of the background of the applicant relevant to the teaching position (i.e. education or other experience) and documentation for purposes of conducting a criminal background check.

The SB 621-A minority report would give the Commission authority to suspend or revoke the registration of or otherwise discipline a registered charter school teacher just as it can currently for licensed teachers. It would not change the overall licensure requirement for teachers and administrators at charter schools which is currently 50 percent.

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

Committee Services Form – 2007 Regular Session