HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 2885

By COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

April 18

L	On page 1 of the printed bill, delete lines 4 through 28 and delete page 2 and insert:
2	"SECTION 1. The Remote and Necessary School District Fund is established in the State
3	Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. Moneys in the Remote and Neces-
1	sary School District Fund are continuously appropriated to the Department of Education to
5	award as grants under section 2 of this 2007 Act.

- "SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section, 'remote and necessary school district' means a school district that offers kindergarten through grade 12 and has:
- "(a) An average daily membership (ADM), as defined in ORS 327.006, in the prior fiscal year of less than 110; and
- "(b) A school that is located, by the nearest traveled road, more than 20 miles from the nearest school or from a city with a population of more than 5,000.
- "(2) Each fiscal year, the Department of Education shall award grants to remote and necessary school districts for the purpose of making up the difference between a district's general fund operating costs and the amount received by the district as a State School Fund grant.
- "(3) To receive a grant under this section, a remote and necessary school district shall submit to the department:
 - "(a) The budget of the district for the fiscal year for which the grant is requested; and
- "(b) A plan for the use of the requested grant moneys.
- "(4) The department shall award grants under this section based on the information submitted under subsection (3) of this section and the need level of the remote and necessary school district.
- "(5) The grant amount that a remote and necessary school district may receive under this section each fiscal year is equal to the lesser of:
 - "(a) \$200,000; or

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- "(b) An amount equal to the district's percentage of the Remote and Necessary School District Fund.
- "(6) A remote and necessary school district's percentage of the Remote and Necessary School District Fund is equal to the total amount available in the fund each fiscal year for grants divided by the number of remote and necessary school districts that qualified for a grant in that fiscal year.
- "(7) The State Board of Education may adopt rules to implement this section.
- 33 "SECTION 3. Sections 1 and 2 of this 2007 Act are repealed on June 30, 2009.
- "SECTION 4. Any moneys remaining in the Remote and Necessary School District Fund on June 30, 2009, shall be transferred to the General Fund.

"SECTION 5. There are appropriated to the Department of Education, out of the General Fund, for the Remote and Necessary School District Fund, the following amounts:

- "(1) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007, the amount of \$2.2 million.
- "(2) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008, the amount of \$2.2 million.
- "SECTION 6. (1) During the 2007-2009 biennium, the legislative interim committees on revenue shall conduct a study of the adequacy of funding of small school districts. The committees shall examine:
- "(a) Whether the additional amounts received by small school districts that are attributable to the additional amount added to the ADMw of those districts under ORS 327.013 (7)(a)(F) and 327.077 and the amount awarded as grants under ORS 327.357, when combined with other funding, are adequate to provide sufficient funding for those small school districts:
 - "(b) What types of small school districts are not being provided adequate funding; and
 - "(c) The long term effects of not providing small school districts with adequate funding.
- "(2) Based on the study, the legislative interim committees on revenue shall make recommendations to the Seventy-fifth Legislative Assembly and may presession file proposed legislation that would implement the recommendations.
- "SECTION 7. This 2007 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2007 Act takes effect July 1, 2007.".

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