

House Joint Resolution 54

Sponsored by Representative CANNON; Representatives BARNHART, BUCKLEY, CLEM, GREENLICK, HOLVEY, NOLAN, READ, ROBLAN, SHIELDS, WITT

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Proposes amendment to Oregon Constitution requiring Legislative Assembly to appropriate biennially minimum sum for state system of public education. Specifies bases for amounts required for kindergarten through grade 12 system, community college system and higher education system. Provides for phase-in of constitutional requirement.

Authorizes Legislative Assembly to appropriate amount that is less than amount constitutionally required if approved by three-fifths of members in each house.

Refers proposed amendment to people for their approval or rejection at next regular general election.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

PARAGRAPH 1. The Constitution of the State of Oregon is amended by creating a new section 9 to be added to and made a part of Article VIII, and by amending section 8, Article VIII, such sections to read:

Sec. 8. Adequate and Equitable Funding. (1) *[The]* **Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the** Legislative Assembly shall appropriate *[in]* **for** each biennium **beginning on or after July 1, 2011, a total** sum of money *[sufficient to ensure that]* **for** the state's system of public education *[meets quality goals established by law, and publish a report that either demonstrates the appropriation is sufficient, or identifies the reasons for the insufficiency, its extent, and its impact on the ability of the state's system of public education to meet those goals.]* **that ensures each of the following minimum amounts are met:**

(a) **An amount not less than 100 percent of the cost of meeting the quality goals established by law for the kindergarten through grade 12 public education system.**

(b) **An amount not less than 50 percent of the total projected cost of providing an education, as determined by a commission established by law, in the public community college system. The commission, in determining the total projected cost of providing an education, shall consider projected enrollment and projected changes to costs of providing an education in the public community college system.**

(c) **An amount not less than 70 percent of the total projected cost of providing an education, as determined by a commission established by law, in the public higher education system. The commission, in determining the total projected cost of providing an education, shall consider projected enrollment and projected changes to costs of providing an education in the public higher education system.**

(2) **The Legislative Assembly may appropriate a total sum of money for a biennium that is less than an amount required in paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of subsection (1) of this section if the amount is approved by three-fifths of the members serving in each house of the Leg-**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **islative Assembly.**

2 [(2)] (3) Consistent with such legal obligation as it may have to maintain substantial equity in
3 state funding, the Legislative Assembly shall establish a system of Equalization Grants to eligible
4 **school** districts for each year in which the voters of such **school** districts approve local option taxes
5 as described in Article XI, section 11 (4)(a)(B) of this Constitution. The amount of such Grants and
6 eligibility criteria shall be determined by the Legislative Assembly.

7 **(4) As used in this section:**

8 **(a) "Cost of providing an education" means operational costs and capital costs.**

9 **(b) "Public higher education system" does not include the Oregon Health and Science**
10 **University.**

11 **SECTION 9. Notwithstanding section 8 of this Article, for the purpose of phasing in the**
12 **minimum appropriation requirements of subsection (1) of section 8 of this Article, the Leg-**
13 **islative Assembly may appropriate for the 2011-2013, 2013-2015, 2015-2017, 2017-2019 and**
14 **2019-2021 biennia a total sum of money that is less than an amount required by paragraph**
15 **(a), (b) or (c) of subsection (1) of section 8 of this Article if the amount is equal to a per-**
16 **centage that is greater than the percentage of the total projected cost of providing an edu-**
17 **cation for that segment of the state's system of public education for the biennium that**
18 **precedes the biennium for which the amount is appropriated.**

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20 **PARAGRAPH 2. The amendment proposed by this resolution shall be submitted to the**
21 **people for their approval or rejection at the next regular general election held throughout**
22 **this state.**