

# Senate Joint Resolution 30

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT (at the request of Governor Theodore R. Kulongoski, Superintendent of Public Instruction Susan Castillo, Oregon PTA, Stand for Children, Oregon Small Schools Association, Oregon Education Association, American Federation of Teachers-Oregon, Oregon School Employees Association, Oregon School Boards Association, Confederation of Oregon School Administrators, Oregon Association of Education Service Districts, Multnomah Education Service District, North Clackamas School District, Oregon Library Association)

## 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**.

Expresses legislative support for comprehensive investment in Oregon's school children in lieu of mandate proposed by Initiative Petition 24 (The 65 Percent Solution).

## JOINT RESOLUTION

1  
2       Whereas Oregon students are educated in nearly 200 individual school districts of many types  
3 and sizes; and

4       Whereas providing a high-quality education to those students requires the efforts of a team of  
5 people offering a wide range of services that support and sustain direct instruction in the classroom;  
6 and

7       Whereas Initiative Petition 24 (The 65 Percent Solution) mandates that a minimum of 65 percent  
8 of school spending must be devoted solely to direct classroom instruction as defined by the National  
9 Center for Education Statistics (NCES), without regard to the full range of services that support and  
10 sustain that instruction; and

11       Whereas Initiative Petition 24 (The 65 Percent Solution) is based on a "one-size-fits-all" calcu-  
12 lation that does not include the cost of bringing students to the school, maintaining the school and  
13 its environment, keeping the school safe or training staff; and

14       Whereas the NCES definition of classroom instruction that was created in 1980 is outdated, and  
15 there have been significant changes in both instructional and noninstructional costs since that time;  
16 and

17       Whereas Initiative Petition 24 (The 65 Percent Solution) will have a direct, negative impact on  
18 funding for those items that are not included in the outdated NCES definition of direct classroom  
19 instruction, such as school libraries, school health and nursing, nutrition services, transportation,  
20 building maintenance, counseling, security and professional development for teachers and classified  
21 employees; and

22       Whereas speech therapy is not included in the NCES definition of classroom instruction, yet it  
23 is an integral part of teaching students with speech problems how to read, and school libraries and  
24 librarians are also vital to student learning for every subject, yet are excluded; and

25       Whereas research has shown that school spending on support services can be critical to student  
26 education achievement, such as the enhanced classroom instruction that results from educators'  
27 continuous professional development training and school counselors' crucial work to prevent stu-  
28 dents from dropping out; and

**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       Whereas Initiative Petition 24 (The 65 Percent Solution) does include payment for noninstruc-  
2       tional, nonclassroom expenses such as uniforms for school sports teams; and

3       Whereas independent research does not show a statistical improvement in student performance  
4       at a 65 percent minimum percentage of school budgets spent on direct classroom instruction; and

5       Whereas Initiative Petition 24 (The 65 Percent Solution) does nothing to guarantee greater stu-  
6       dent achievement and has no language to guarantee that school districts will adjust their spending  
7       in a manner that creates greater efficiency or accountability; and

8       Whereas Initiative Petition 24 (The 65 Percent Solution) limits the ability of local school dis-  
9       tricts to develop individual strategies to address the unique circumstances that impact each indi-  
10      vidual school district; now, therefore,

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

12      That we, the members of the Seventy-fourth Legislative Assembly stand in staunch opposition  
13      to Initiative Petition 24 (The 65 Percent Solution) and support a plan for comprehensive investment  
14      in Oregon's school children that addresses the entire network of services to produce a quality ex-  
15      perience and a quality outcome for every student.

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