

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Reps. Kotek/Clem
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Bates

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass the with Amendments and Be Printed A-Engrossed

Vote: 16 – 0 – 3

House – Yeas: D. Edwards, Galizio, Hanna, Jenson, Morgan, Nathanson, Nolan, Shields, P. Smith

– Nays:

– Exc:

Senate – Yeas: Carter, Gordly, Johnson, Monroe, Schrader, Verger, Whitsett

– Nays:

– Exc: Bates, Nelson, Winters

Prepared By: Erica Kleiner, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: February 19, 2008

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: This bill requires the Department of Education (ODE) to establish the Oregon Farm-to-School and School Garden Program. The bill authorizes the State Board of Education to adopt rules for program administration. The bill permits ODE to accept contributions for program duties. The bill requires ODE to report to the Legislative Assembly regarding the program. The bill declares an emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Position authority will be granted to the Department of Education for the Farm-to-School and School Garden Program in SB 5556 and ODE will absorb the costs within their existing limitation.

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Deletes the appropriation of moneys from the General Fund to ODE for the program.

BACKGROUND: During the 2007 legislative session, the Department of Agriculture was authorized to hire a fulltime farm-to-school coordinator to work with the Oregon agricultural sector to develop and promote Oregon agricultural products for school cafeterias. House Bill 3601 creates a corollary position within ODE. Additionally, the measure directs ODE to assist certain school districts in utilizing Oregon food products and produce from school gardens; promoting food-and garden-based educational activities in certain school districts; and to provide information to school districts on how farm-to-school and school garden projects may help implement federally mandated wellness policies.