

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Bonamici, Kruse, Metsger, Morse, Hass
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Dana Richardson, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Permits Superintendent of Public Instruction, pursuant to rules adopted by the State Board of Education, to specify alternative date for distributing funds to school districts and education service districts; to specify alternative date for districts to estimate number of students in average daily membership; to waive reporting date or specify an alternative date for districts to provide required reports and audit information; and to extend time for submitting a plan to correct school deficiencies if there is a human-created or natural disaster. Declares an emergency; effective July 1, 2009.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Setting parameters on granting variances
- Types of disasters that could result in variances

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Currently, the Superintendent of Public Instruction does not have authority to waive or extend required reporting dates and dates for distribution of funds to school districts in cases of emergency. Instead, the superintendent is required to withhold State School Fund payments if school districts fail to comply with required reporting deadlines, regardless of the circumstances. Similarly, if the Department of Education experiences a human-created or natural disaster, there is no statutory flexibility to permit a delay in the distribution of funds.