

REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass with Different Amendments to the A-Eng. Measure (Printed B-Eng.)
Signers of the Report: Sen. Atkinson and Sen. Ferrioli
Prepared By: Dana Richardson, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 5/29

WHAT THE MINORITY REPORT DOES: Creates Oregon Online Education Task Force Relating to Public Charter Schools. Requires task force to study and identify means to provide online course options with critical curriculum content and highly qualified instructors that are otherwise unavailable, to make recommendations to assist charter schools to develop statewide identified characteristics, to provide schools with a public website to post and share professional development information, and to make recommendations for administrative structures to ensure funding and reliable resource support for online instruction, to develop policies to ensure quality course content and instructional processes, and provide specified oversight. Requires task force to report to legislative interim education committees no later than December 15, 2009. Requires Department of Education to staff task force. Permits department to accept contributions of moneys to be deposited into Public Charter School Development Fund. Sunsets task force upon adjournment of next legislative session that begins on or after January 1, 2010. Prohibits approving charter that would sponsor virtual public charter school on or after Act's effective date. Removes prohibition upon adjournment of next legislative session that begins on or after January 1, 2010. Declares an emergency; effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Requirement in Senate Bill 767B for task force to file legislation
- Membership of the task force

EFFECT OF MINORITY AMENDMENT: Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND: Current statute establishes requirements for enrollment of students in public charter schools. Public charter schools that offer any online courses are required to have at least 50 percent of their students reside in the district in which the school is located. The State Board of Education has considered waivers to this requirement, but has not standardized guidelines for determining when to grant a waiver.