

House Bill 3426

Sponsored by Representative THATCHER

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**.

Allows Department of Education to award grants from School Improvement Fund for dropout prevention and student retention programs.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to School Improvement Fund; amending ORS 327.297.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 327.297 is amended to read:

5 327.297. (1) In addition to those moneys distributed through the State School Fund, the Depart-
6 ment of Education shall award grants to school districts, education service districts, the Youth
7 Corrections Education Program and the Juvenile Detention Education Program for activities that
8 relate to increases in student achievement, including:

9 (a) Early childhood support including establishing, maintaining or expanding quality
10 prekindergarten programs and full-day kindergarten programs;

11 (b) Class size reduction with an emphasis on the reduction of kindergarten through grade three
12 class sizes;

13 (c) Increases in instructional time including summer programs and before- and after-school pro-
14 grams;

15 (d) Mentoring, teacher retention and professional development;

16 (e) Remediation, alternative learning and student retention;

17 (f) Services to at-risk youth;

18 (g) Programs to improve a student achievement gap between student groups identified by cul-
19 ture, poverty, language and race and other student groups;

20 (h) Vocational education programs;

21 (i) Literacy programs; *[and]*

22 **(j) Dropout prevention and student retention programs that already have been imple-**
23 **mented and are shown to be effective; and**

24 *[(j)]* **(k)** Other research-based student improvement strategies approved by the State Board of
25 Education.

26 (2)(a) Each school district, each education service district, the Youth Corrections Education
27 Program and the Juvenile Detention Education Program may apply to the Department of Education
28 for a grant.

29 (b) The department shall review and approve applications based on criteria established by the
30 State Board of Education. In establishing the criteria, the State Board of Education shall consider
31 *[the recommendations of the Quality Education Commission established under Executive Order 99-16]*

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 *and*] the recommendations of the Quality Education Commission established under ORS 327.500.

2 (c) The applications shall include the activities to be funded and the goals of the district or
 3 program for increases in student performance. The applications shall become part of the local dis-
 4 trict continuous improvement plan described in ORS 329.095.

5 (3) The Department of Education shall evaluate the annual progress of each recipient of grant
 6 funds under this section toward the performance targets established by the Quality Education
 7 [Commissions] **Commission**. The evaluation shall become part of the requirements of the department
 8 for assessing the effectiveness of the district under ORS 329.085, 329.095 and 329.105. The depart-
 9 ment shall ensure district and program accountability by providing appropriate assistance, inter-
 10 vening and establishing consequences in order to support progress toward the performance targets.

11 (4) Each biennium the Department of Education shall issue a report to the Legislative Assembly
 12 on the grant program and the results of the grant program.

13 (5)(a) Notwithstanding ORS 338.155 (9), the Department of Education may not award a grant
 14 under this section directly to a public charter school.

15 (b) A school district that receives a grant under this section may transfer a portion of the grant
 16 to a public charter school based on the charter of the school or any other agreement between the
 17 school district and the public charter school.

18 (c) A public charter school that receives grant funds under this subsection shall use those funds
 19 for the activities specified in subsection (1) of this section.

20 (6)(a) The amount of each grant for a program or school district = the program’s or school
 21 district’s ADMw × (the total amount available for distribution to programs and school districts as
 22 grants in each fiscal year ÷ the total ADMw of all programs and school districts that receive a
 23 grant).

24 (b) The amount of each grant for an education service district = the education service district’s
 25 ADMw × (the total amount available for distribution to education service districts as grants in
 26 each fiscal year ÷ the total ADMw of all education service districts that receive a grant).

27 (c) As used in this subsection, “ADMw” means:

28 (A) For a school district, the extended weighted average daily membership as calculated under
 29 ORS 327.013, 338.155 (1) and 338.165 [(2)] (3);

30 (B) For the Youth Corrections Education Program, the average daily membership as defined in
 31 ORS 327.006 multiplied by 2.0;

32 (C) For the Juvenile Detention Education Program, the average daily membership as defined in
 33 ORS 327.006 multiplied by 1.5; and

34 (D) For an education service district, the sum of the ADMw of the component school districts
 35 of the education service district.

36 (7) Each district or program shall deposit the grant amounts it receives under this section in a
 37 separate account, and shall apply amounts in that account to pay for activities described in the
 38 district’s or program’s application.

39 (8) The State Board of Education may adopt any rules necessary for the administration of the
 40 grant program.

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