Senate Joint Resolution 50

Sponsored by Senator EDWARDS

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.**

Directs Superintendent of Public Instruction to promote Chinese language study in Oregon schools.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Whereas the State of Oregon has a sister state agreement with Fujian Province in the People's Republic of China; and

Whereas the City of Portland has a sister city agreement with Suzhou in the People's Republic of China; and

Whereas the People's Republic of China is Oregon's second-largest trading partner, with $2.469 billion in exports in 2008; and

Whereas over 900 million people on earth are native speakers of Chinese, making Chinese the largest spoken language in the world; and

Whereas the next generation of Oregonians would benefit from having a working knowledge of the Chinese language and culture to increase their opportunities in the growing global economy; and

Whereas Portland State University and the University of Oregon have been designated Confucius Institutes and are prepared to assist interested Oregon public schools in applying for and establishing Confucius Classrooms on all interested elementary and secondary school campuses; now, therefore,

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

That we, the members of the Seventy-fifth Legislative Assembly, in special legislative session assembled, direct the Superintendent of Public Instruction to encourage Chinese language study by promoting establishment of Confucius Classrooms in Oregon public schools and other nonprofit language programs dedicated to providing Oregon students and interested adults opportunities to learn the Chinese language.

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.