### FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Seventy-Sixth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2011 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

Prepared by: John Terpening Reviewed by: Monica Brown Date: 4-5-2011

# **Measure Description:**

Requires school district to give priority for participation in Expanded Options Program to at-risk students who are eligible students if school district has met credit hour cap.

## **Government Unit(s) Affected:**

Department of Education, School Districts, Community Colleges, Oregon University System institutions

**Summary of Expenditure Impact:** See Analysis

### **Local Government Mandate:**

This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

## **Analysis:**

The measure requires school districts to give priority for participation in the Expanded Options Program to at-risk students if the school district has met the credit hour cap. The measure requires that school districts that have not exceeded the credit hour cap ensure that all eligible at-risk students are allowed to participate and ensures that at-risk students are not required to make any payments for participation.

The fiscal impact is indeterminate. The number of students choosing to utilize the program and the number of credit hours pursued by a student are unknown. Additionally, the costs incurred at the post-secondary institution and the negotiated financial arrangement between the district and post-secondary institution are unknown.

The Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) notes that the measure requires school districts to ensure that participating at-risk students are not required to make any payments for participation and does not place restrictions on what incurred costs to students may be eligible for reimbursement. The measure requires that school districts that have not reached the credit hour cap "must ensure" at-risk students are allowed to participate and may allow not at-risk students to participate. The intent of the measure requiring that school districts "must ensure" at-risk students are allowed to participate is unclear and may be subject to interpretation by individual school districts regarding the extent of ensuring at-risk students are allowed to participate.

LFO has contacted school district representatives for a fiscal impact statement but has not received a response. If fiscal impact information is provided from school districts, LFO will issue a revised fiscal impact statement.

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