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: 6-16-2011

Measure Description:

Expands types of entities that may sponsor public charter school.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Education, Community Colleges and Workforce Development, Oregon University System

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 allows for community colleges, public institutions of higher education within the Oregon University System or the Oregon Health and Sciences University to sponsor a public charter school. The measure provides that public charter schools must initially apply to the school district in which the school is located and may apply with the State Board of Education or an institution of higher education for sponsorship.

Currently only the school district in which the charter school is located or the State Board of Education may sponsor a charter school. The measure outlines the sponsorship requirements of a higher education institution and provides a similar funding mechanism as current school district sponsorship of charter schools.

The fiscal impact is indeterminate. The number of charter schools that may apply to institutions of higher education or the State Board of Education are unknown. Oregon University System and Community Colleges and Workforce Development estimate costs to review, negotiate, and appeal potential charter school sponsorships would range between \$27,000 and \$33,000 for each individual sponsorship request. The individual institutions would incur additional costs if a sponsorship was approved.

The Department of Education anticipates a minimal fiscal impact for rule-making, potential appeals process, and to provide technical assistance to institutions of higher education that may choose to sponsor a charter school under the provisions of the measure.

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