

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact  
**FISCAL:** Fiscal statement issued

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means
<b>Vote:</b>	4 - 0 - 1
<b>Yeas:</b>	George, Morse, Shields, Hass
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	Bonamici
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Linda Lindholm, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	5/3

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Requires Department of Education (ODE) to be responsible for payment of education costs of students in residential treatment programs by contracting with school district in which program is located. Directs school district in which residential treatment program is located to ensure education is provided to student in program.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Long Term Care Treatment
- Nature of student mental or health issues
- Private placement by parents
- Education funding inequities
- Levels of education services

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** Under present law, (ORS 343.961), ODE pays for the education of only those children placed by a state agency in a residential treatment program with the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) or the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) under contracts for long-term care or treatment (LTCT). This policy leaves out children placed by their parents or paid through private insurance. Students placed in residential treatment programs experience interruptions in education due to the changing responsibility for funding. Some children receive no education services because the parent's insurance does not provide for education or the insurance is exhausted prior to the conclusion of the placement.

House Bill 2281 defines "eligible residential treatment program" as a residential treatment program with which the OHA or OYA contracts for LTCT. "Residential treatment program" means a public or private residential program that provides LTCT programs for children with a mental illness, emotional disturbance or another mental health issue. The measure redefines 'students' as children who are placed in an eligible LTCT residential treatment program by a public or private entity or by the child's parent.

Each school year, ODE receives a formulated amount from the State School Fund to pay the costs of educating children in LCTC. Currently, the cost of education for students who are placed in residential treatment facilities is the responsibility of the school district where the student's residence is located. House Bill 2281 requires ODE to be responsible for payment of the cost of education by contract with the local school district in which the facility program is located. The school district in which the residential treatment facilities are located are responsible for identifying qualifying students and providing educational services to all children in the residential treatment programs, regardless of what entity places them.

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*This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.*