

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Bonamici, George, Morse, Shields, Hass

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Linda Lindholm, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/26, 5/31

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Extends sunset on allowance of certain foreign exchange students to be considered residents of school district until July 1, 2013. Requires resident school district of foreign exchange students described in ORS 339,133(8) to submit a report to the interim legislative committee on education. Report must include recommendations for funding options that may be enacted in lieu of considering the foreign students to be residents. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2011.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Funding structures with weight corrections for small remote school districts
- Educational benefits to both exchange students and local students
- Policy considerations and equitable permanent solutions

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Provides a two year extension to current practice. Requires resident school district of certain foreign exchange students to submit a report to the interim legislative committee on education, no later than October 1, 2012. The report shall contain recommendations for funding options other than considering foreign students as residents.

BACKGROUND: ORS 339.133 establishes that children between the ages of 4 and 18 are considered residents of the school district in which their parents or guardians reside and specifies several exceptions. Currently, five rural Oregon school districts house a total of forty-six students in dormitories. House Bill 3359-A adds the exception that foreign exchange students residing in a school dormitory are considered residents of the school district in which the dormitory is located, if they meet specified criteria. Broad interpretations of the statutes allow the districts to include these students in the calculations that determine state school fund distributions for rural schools. This measure permits that practice to continue for two years, while options other than counting exchange students as residents are developed.

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