

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Parrish
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Whitsett

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Without recommendation as to Passage with Amendments and as Printed A-Engrossed

Vote: 21 – 4 – 0

House

Yeas: Beyer, Buckley, Cowan, Freeman, Garrard, Komp, Kotek, McLane, Nathanson, Richardson,
G. Smith, Thatcher, Whisnant

Nays: Nolan

Exc:

Senate

Yeas: Devlin, Edwards, Girod, Monroe, Nelson, Thomsen, Whitsett, Winters

Nays: Bates, Johnson, Verger

Exc:

Prepared By: John Terpening, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: June 17, 2011

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: 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. 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.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Fiscal impact of the measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND: Statutes governing public charter schools in Oregon were enacted in 1999. As of the 2009 – 2010 school year, 103 charter schools served over 18,000 students, which constituted 3.3% of the total student population in Oregon. Fourteen new charter schools opened that year.

Current statute limits sponsors of public charter schools to school districts and the State Board of Education. House Bill 3645 expands sponsorship to include any 501(c)3 tax-exempt Oregon nonprofit entity with a mission statement to promote K-12 education and any four-year, nonprofit, generally accredited institution of higher education based in and operating in Oregon.