## 76th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2011 Regular Session MEASURE: HJR 36 A CARRIER: Rep. Whisnant

**House Committee on Education** 

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact FISCAL: No fiscal impact

**Action:** Be Adopted as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

**Vote:** 8 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Conger, Dembrow, Frederick, Huffman, Komp, Parrish, Gelser, Wingard

Nays: 0 Exc.: 0

**Prepared By:** Victoria Cox, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 3/9, 3/30

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Urges school districts to require students to successfully complete a course in civics education or otherwise demonstrate proficiency prior to graduation from high school.

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Current civics literacy programs
- Responsibilities of local school boards
- Importance of civic literacy to Oregon's initiative and referendum processes

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Adds options for demonstrating proficiency.

**BACKGROUND:** Currently, twenty-nine states require students to take a course in government prior to graduation from high school. House Joint Resolution 36-A notes the correlation between civics education and future civic engagement and urges school districts to require students to successfully complete a course in civics prior to graduation or to otherwise demonstrate proficiency in a manner determined by school districts.