76th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2011 Regular Session **MEASURE: SB 26** STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee on Education & Workforce Development

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

Action: Do Pass Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

> Bonamici, George, Morse, Shields, Hass Yeas:

Navs: Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Linda Lindholm, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/29

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Eliminates option for private elementary or secondary school to be registered with Department of Education. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2011.

CARRIER: Sen. George

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Process and nature of registration of private schools
- Oregon Department of Education (ODE) staff hours and resources spent on registration
- Level of support from Federation of Independent Schools and ODE

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: ORS 345.525 states that private elementary and secondary schools may submit applications for registration approval with ODE. Registration of private pre-kindergarten-grade 12 schools is optional and offered at no cost. Currently, there are 367 schools registered with ODE. Approximately 400 applications are received and processed annually. Registration provides no verification of the information or oversight of registered private schools. Elimination of private school registration reduces ODE workloads and expenditures. Private school registration is not in line with ODE's core mission of public education.

Previously, ODE allowed teachers of registered private schools to use their experience at private schools to renew their license through the Teachers Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC). TSPC repeal of OAR 584-048-0015 in 2009, allows private school teachers renewed licensure to credit experience gained at Oregon private elementary and secondary schools whether or not the schools are registered with ODE.