

REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Bonamici, George, Morse, Shields, Hass
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Linda Lindholm, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Extends sunset of the Oregon School Facilities Task Force (OSFTF) and Oregon School Facilities Task Force Fund to January 2, 2014. Directs OSFTF to study the status of public school facilities and make recommendations. Describes composition and governance of OSFTF. Adds Superintendent of Public Instruction as member. Outlines areas of assessment, evaluations and reporting requirements. Directs Oregon Department of Administrative Services to provide staff support and hire employees or consultants necessary for the performance of functions. Establishes new report timelines and appropriates moneys from the General Fund.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- School facilities infrastructure failures and deferred maintenance
- Seismic, energy and modernization upgrades
- District inequities in bonding and funding
- Allocation of funds based on assessments
- Obsolescence of prior assessment findings

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces original measure.

BACKGROUND: The majority of Oregon's schools were built following World Wars I and II and those constructed in the early 1950s were built of a lesser quality. According to an international architecture, education design and planning firm, approximately 65-70 percent of Oregon's schools are failing as basic buildings, require extensive renovation or replacement. There is no single report that identifies the conditions of all school facilities in a manner that can be disseminated and organized into a state-wide action plan.

The 2009 Legislature authorized creation and funding for the Oregon School Facilities Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding minimum facility standards and how to pay for retrofitting and upgrades. Senate Bill 245-A extends the sunset clause to 2014 for OSFTF to oversee a professional assessment of school facilities to determine critical immediate and long term needs.

The measure charges OSFTF to create a statewide inventory of facilities to provide a basis for priority setting and decision making. Part of the assessment is to evaluate potential energy conservation measures and, coupled with Department of Energy audits, develop a holistic plan for replacing or upgrading systems. Additionally, OSFTF is directed to develop educational facility physical standards and benchmarks that improve student performance, such as lighting, air exchange, and learning and connectivity spaces. OSFTF is directed to research funding strategies and local options. The measure also requires OSFTF to investigate existing education facilities and execution of educational facility standards, coupled with research on funding and to generate a comprehensive action plan to address immediate and long-term school facilities needs.

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