

**REVENUE: No revenue impact**

**FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued**

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**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:** 2/10, 3/17

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Requires children five or six years of age who are enrolled in public school to maintain regular attendance at public school while enrolled in the public school. Requires a person who has elected to enroll a child five or six years of age in a public school to maintain the child in regular attendance while the child is enrolled. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2011.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Compulsory attendance for grades 1-12
- Relationship of consistent attendance to optimal early learning opportunities and later academic success
- Achievement gap closure for low-income, minority and limited English proficiency students
- Attendance at public school not inferred for home schooled or not enrolled five and six year old child

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Deletes phrase “during the entire school year” and replaces with “while the child is enrolled in the public school.”

**BACKGROUND:** The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) was directed by the Legislative Assembly to form a Full-Day Kindergarten Implementation Committee for making policy recommendations. The Committee’s Results and Recommendations report, dated September 23, 2010, recommended expanding the compulsory attendance mandate for children enrolled in kindergarten prior to age seven to make it consistent with requirements currently applicable to children between the ages of seven and eighteen years.

Current statutes require that every person having control of a child between the ages of seven and eighteen years who has not completed the 12<sup>th</sup> grade to send such child to and maintain such child in regular attendance at a public full-time school during the entire school term. Senate Bill 246A states that if a person has control of a child five or six years of age and has elected to enroll the child in public school, the person is required to send the child to, and maintain the child in, regular attendance at the public school.