

**HB 2636**

**Relating to Advancement of STEM Educational Goals**

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HB 2636 establishes the STEM Investment Council to assist the Oregon Education Investment Board, the Chief Education Officer, and others in developing and overseeing a long-term strategy to advance state goals related to science, technology, engineering and math or STEM. The goals involve increasing the number of students who are either proficient in science and math or who earn post-secondary degrees in relevant areas. At this time the Chief Education Officer is to appoint the Council.

This bill also establishes the STEM Investment Grant Program for funding STEM related programs in school districts, community colleges, and public universities. The Council assists in administering the grant program.

The Education Subcommittee recommends HB 2636 be amended and reported out do pass as amended.

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Sprenger  
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Girod

**Revenue:**

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

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**Action:** Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure as Amended and be Printed B-Engrossed

**Vote:**

House

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc:

Senate

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc:

**Prepared By:** Doug Wilson, Legislative Fiscal Office

**Meeting Date:** June 25, 2013

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Creates STEM Investment Council charged with advancement of educational initiatives in fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Establishes STEM Investment Grant Program to fund programs and STEM Investment Account but no money is appropriated for the program at this time. Emphasizes funding for STEM programs that are elements of partnerships or regional strategies to improve STEM achievement. Requires STEM Council to report progress annually to Legislative Assembly. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2013.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:** None.

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Clarifies the responsibilities of the Council, makes the Council voluntary (no per diem), and removes eligibility for expense reimbursement for Council members. The amendment also removes the appropriation section for the grant program.

**BACKGROUND:** House Bill 4056 (2012) established the Joint Interim Task Force on STEM Access and Success to encourage students to study STEM subjects. Among the legislative recommendations are the following: “The Task Force recommends the establishment of an entity within the office of the Chief Education Officer responsible for developing, coordinating and advancing STEM learning and industry engagement in Oregon. In this report, we refer to the entity as the STEM Council, which is envisioned as a partnership between the public and private sectors with responsibility for a adopting and advancing an ambitious agenda for STEM education, including clearly articulated goals for K-12 and post-secondary education systems; developing and managing the infrastructure for STEM Hubs; administering moneys appropriated from the general fund for STEM development; and ensuring appropriate resource distribution and accountability for STEM Hubs and other programs funded to advance STEM education through a competitive grant process.”

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO  
A-ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 2636**

1 On page 2 of the printed A-engrossed bill, delete lines 17 through 19 and  
2 insert:

3 “(3) To advance the educational goals described in subsection (2) of this  
4 section, the council shall make recommendations to the Chief Education Of-  
5 ficer regarding:

6 “(a) The administration of the STEM Investment Grant Program estab-  
7 lished in section 7 of this 2013 Act; and

8 “(b) Other investments in science, technology, engineering and math-  
9 ematics that are made or overseen by the Oregon Education Investment  
10 Board.”.

11 Delete lines 22 through 24 and insert:

12 “(5) To aid and advise the council in the performance of the council’s  
13 duties, the council:

14 “(a) Shall recruit educators and administrators from kindergarten through  
15 grade 12 and from post-secondary education to be nonvoting advisory mem-  
16 bers of the council;

17 “(b) May recruit nonvoting advisory members to the council who are in  
18 addition to the members identified in paragraph (a) of this subsection; and

19 “(c) May establish advisory and technical committees that the council  
20 considers necessary.”.

21 Delete lines 29 through 32 and insert:

22 “(7) Members of the council are not entitled to compensation or re-

1 imbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers of the council.”.

2 Delete lines 43 through 45.

3 On page 3, delete lines 1 through 41 and insert:

4 **“SECTION 4.** Section 1 of this 2013 Act is amended to read:

5 **“Sec. 1.** (1) The STEM Investment Council is established. The council  
6 shall function under the **joint** direction and control of the [*Oregon Education*  
7 *Investment Board established by section 1, chapter 519, Oregon Laws 2011*]  
8 **State Board of Education and the State Board of Higher Education.**

9 “(2)(a) The council is established for the purpose of assisting the [*Chief*  
10 *Education Officer in*] **Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Com-**  
11 **missioner for Community College Services and the Chancellor of the**  
12 **Oregon University System in jointly** developing and overseeing a long-  
13 term strategy that advances the following educational goals related to sci-  
14 ence, technology, engineering and mathematics:

15 “(A) Double the percentage of students in 4th and 8th grades who are  
16 proficient or advanced in mathematics and science, as determined using a  
17 nationally representative assessment of students’ knowledge in mathematics  
18 and science; and

19 “(B) Double the number of students who earn a post-secondary degree  
20 requiring proficiency in science, technology, engineering or mathematics.

21 “(b) Achievement of the goals described in paragraph (a) of this sub-  
22 section shall be determined based on a comparison between the 2014-2015  
23 school year or academic year and the 2024-2025 school year or academic year.

24 “(3) To advance the educational goals described in subsection (2) of this  
25 section, the council shall make recommendations to [*the Chief Education*  
26 *Officer*]:

27 **“(a) The Superintendent of Public Instruction** regarding[:]

28 “[*a*] The administration of the STEM Investment Grant Program estab-  
29 lished in section 7 of this 2013 Act; and

30 **“(b) The Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Commissioner for**

1 **Community College Services and the Chancellor of the Oregon Uni-**  
2 **versity System regarding** other investments in science, technology, engi-  
3 neering and mathematics that are made or overseen by the [*Oregon*  
4 *Education Investment Board*] **State Board of Education or the State**  
5 **Board of Higher Education.**

6 “(4) The council consists of nine members from the private sector who are  
7 **jointly** appointed by the [*Chief Education Officer*] **Superintendent of Pub-**  
8 **lic Instruction, the Commissioner for Community College Services and**  
9 **the Chancellor of the Oregon University System** and serve at the pleas-  
10 ure of the [*Chief Education Officer*] **superintendent, commissioner and**  
11 **chancellor.**

12 “(5) To aid and advise the council in the performance of the council’s  
13 duties, the council:

14 “(a) Shall recruit educators and administrators from kindergarten through  
15 grade 12 and from post-secondary education to be nonvoting advisory mem-  
16 bers of the council;

17 “(b) May recruit nonvoting advisory members to the council who are in  
18 addition to the members identified in paragraph (a) of this subsection; and

19 “(c) May establish advisory and technical committees that the council  
20 considers necessary.

21 “(6)(a) The [*Chief Education Officer shall*] **Superintendent of Public**  
22 **Instruction, the Commissioner for Community College Services and**  
23 **the Chancellor of the Oregon University System shall jointly** appoint  
24 a council director. The council director shall serve at the pleasure of the  
25 [*Chief Education Officer*] **superintendent, commissioner and chancellor.**

26 “(b) Except as otherwise directed by the [*Chief Education Officer*] **Su-**  
27 **perintendent of Public Instruction, the Commissioner for Community**  
28 **College Services and the Chancellor of the Oregon University System,**  
29 the activities of the council shall be directed and supervised by the council  
30 director.

1 “(7) Members of the council are not entitled to compensation or re-  
2 imbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers of the council.

3 “(8) The council shall [*report annually to the Oregon Education Investment*  
4 *Board*] **submit an annual report to the State Board of Education, the**  
5 **State Board of Higher Education** and the Legislative Assembly on the  
6 progress made toward achieving the goals described in subsection (2) of this  
7 section and the distribution of funds under the STEM Investment Grant  
8 Program.”.

9 On page 4, after line 2, insert:

10 “(3) The amendments to section 7 of this 2013 Act by section 8 of this 2013  
11 Act become operative on March 15, 2016.”.

12 In line 3, delete “(3)” and insert “(4)”.

13 Delete lines 5 through 45.

14 On page 5, delete line 1 and insert:

15 “**SECTION 6.** Section 1 of this 2013 Act, as amended by section 4 of this  
16 2013 Act, is amended to read:

17 “**Sec. 1.** (1) The STEM Investment Council is established. The council  
18 shall function under the joint direction and control of the State Board of  
19 Education and the State Board of Higher Education.

20 “(2)(a) The council is established for the purpose of assisting the Super-  
21 intendent of Public Instruction, the Commissioner for Community College  
22 Services and the Chancellor of the Oregon University System in jointly de-  
23 veloping and overseeing a long-term strategy that advances the following  
24 educational goals related to science, technology, engineering and mathemat-  
25 ics:

26 “(A) [*Double the*] **Having a specified** percentage of students in 4th and  
27 8th grades who are proficient or advanced in mathematics and science, as  
28 determined using a nationally representative assessment of students’ knowl-  
29 edge in mathematics and science; and

30 “(B) [*Double the*] **Having a specified** number of students who earn a

1 post-secondary degree requiring proficiency in science, technology, engineer-  
2 ing or mathematics.

3 “*[(b) Achievement of the goals described in paragraph (a) of this subsection*  
4 *shall be determined based on a comparison between the 2014-2015 school year*  
5 *or academic year and the 2024-2025 school year or academic year.]*”

6 “**(b) Achievement of the goals described in paragraph (a) of this**  
7 **subsection shall be determined based on percentages and numbers de-**  
8 **termined by the council.**”

9 “(3) To advance the educational goals described in subsection (2) of this  
10 section, the council shall make recommendations to:

11 “(a) The Superintendent of Public Instruction regarding the adminis-  
12 tration of the STEM Investment Grant Program established in section 7 of  
13 this 2013 Act; and

14 “(b) The Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Commissioner for  
15 Community College Services and the Chancellor of the Oregon University  
16 System regarding other investments in science, technology, engineering and  
17 mathematics that are made or overseen by the State Board of Education or  
18 the State Board of Higher Education.

19 “(4) The council consists of nine members from the private sector who are  
20 jointly appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Commis-  
21 sioner for Community College Services and the Chancellor of the Oregon  
22 University System and serve at the pleasure of the superintendent, commis-  
23 sioner and chancellor.

24 “(5) To aid and advise the council in the performance of the council’s  
25 duties, the council:

26 “(a) Shall recruit educators and administrators from kindergarten through  
27 grade 12 and from post-secondary education to be nonvoting advisory mem-  
28 bers of the council;

29 “(b) May recruit nonvoting advisory members to the council who are in  
30 addition to the members identified in paragraph (a) of this subsection; and

1 “(c) May establish advisory and technical committees that the council  
2 considers necessary.

3 “(6)(a) The Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Commissioner for  
4 Community College Services and the Chancellor of the Oregon University  
5 System shall jointly appoint a council director. The council director shall  
6 serve at the pleasure of the superintendent, commissioner and chancellor.

7 “(b) Except as otherwise directed by the Superintendent of Public In-  
8 struction, the Commissioner for Community College Services and the  
9 Chancellor of the Oregon University System, the activities of the council  
10 shall be directed and supervised by the council director.

11 “(7) Members of the council are not entitled to compensation or re-  
12 imbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers of the council.

13 “(8) The council shall submit an annual report to the State Board of Ed-  
14 ucation, the State Board of Higher Education and the Legislative Assembly  
15 on the progress made toward achieving the goals described in subsection (2)  
16 of this section and the distribution of funds under the STEM Investment  
17 Grant Program.”.

18 Delete lines 5 and 6 and insert:

19 “(2) The STEM Investment Council shall evaluate grant applications and  
20 make recommendations on the applications to the Chief Education Officer.  
21 Under the direction of the Chief Education Officer, the Department of Edu-  
22 cation shall distribute moneys for the grant program and otherwise admin-  
23 ister the grant program.”.

24 After line 45, insert:

25 **“SECTION 8.** Section 7 of this 2013 Act is amended to read:

26 **“Sec. 7.** (1) The STEM Investment Grant Program is established to pro-  
27 vide funding to school districts, community colleges and public universities  
28 listed in ORS 352.002 to advance the goals described in section 1 (2) of this  
29 2013 Act.

30 “(2) The STEM Investment Council shall evaluate grant applications and

1 make recommendations on the applications to the [*Chief Education Officer*]  
2 **Superintendent of Public Instruction**. Under the direction of the [*Chief*  
3 *Education Officer*] **Superintendent of Public Instruction**, the Department  
4 of Education shall distribute moneys for the grant program and otherwise  
5 administer the grant program.

6 “(3)(a) An application for a grant awarded under this section may be  
7 submitted by:

8 “(A) A school district;

9 “(B) A community college district;

10 “(C) A public university;

11 “(D) The Department of Education;

12 “(E) The Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development;

13 “(F) The Oregon University System;

14 “(G) Any other state agency; or

15 “(H) Any combination of entities identified in this paragraph that are  
16 organized as a partnership or a regional effort to improve student achieve-  
17 ment in science, technology, engineering or mathematics.

18 “(b) A grant awarded under this section may be used for:

19 “(A) Classroom or extracurricular activities that further the development  
20 of skills related to science, technology, engineering or mathematics; or

21 “(B) A project that is related to science, technology, engineering or  
22 mathematics and that involves collaboration with a private entity.

23 “(4) The council shall evaluate applications for a grant and make recom-  
24 mendations to the Department of Education. When evaluating applications,  
25 the council and department:

26 “(a) Shall give priority to applications for activities or projects that  
27 produce the largest impact at the lowest cost or for the greatest number of  
28 students throughout this state, including grants for activities or projects  
29 that:

30 “(A) Are determined by the council and department to be likely to become

1 self-supporting within three years;

2 “(B) Expand evidence-based, effective practices in science, technology,  
3 engineering or mathematics;

4 “(C) Can be replicated by other entities in this state;

5 “(D) Show evidence of attracting matching funds;

6 “(E) If the applicant is an entity identified in subsection (3)(a)(A) to (C)  
7 of this section, have demonstrable support from the governing body of the  
8 entity;

9 “(F) Help improve access by underrepresented groups to activities that  
10 involve science, technology, engineering or mathematics; or

11 “(G) Are elements of a partnership or a regional effort to improve student  
12 achievement in science, technology, engineering or mathematics;

13 “(b) May give priority to applications for activities or projects that ben-  
14 efit students in more than one student group among students in kindergarten  
15 through grade 12, students in community colleges and students in universi-  
16 ties;

17 “(c) Shall attempt to achieve a balance, as determined by the council and  
18 department, among grants that are awarded for the sole benefit of students  
19 in kindergarten through grade 12, students in community colleges and stu-  
20 dents in universities; and

21 “(d) Shall take into consideration geographic and demographic  
22 diversity.”.

23 On page 6, line 1, delete “8” and insert “9”.

24 In line 4, delete “STEM Investment Council” and insert “Department of  
25 Education”.

26 Delete lines 6 through 9.

27