

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

**FISCAL:** Fiscal statement issued

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by Prior Reference
<b>Vote:</b>	9 - 0 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Gallegos, Gilliam, Gorsek, Greenlick, Harker, Huffman, Johnson, Whisnant, Dembrow
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Victoria Cox, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	2/25, 3/11

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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 with moneys for account appropriated from General Fund and to Council for awarding grants. 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:**

- Scope of STEM programs
- Location of STEM hubs
- Current organizations addressing STEM issues

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** 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.

**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:

- 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.”

House Bill 2636-A implements these recommendations.

3/12/2013 8:13:00 AM

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