## 77th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2013 Regular Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Development

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

**Action:** Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

**Vote:** 9 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Gallegos, Gilliam, Gorsek, Greenlick, Harker, Huffman, Johnson, Whisnant, Dembrow

**MEASURE: SB 104 A** 

CARRIER: Rep. Greenlick

Nays: 0 Exc.: 0

**Prepared By:** Victoria Cox, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 3/13

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Allows Department of Education to require background check of community college faculty member providing instruction as part of early childhood education program, regardless of program location site. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2013.

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Protection of students in early childhood programs
- Current background check requirements
- Loophole that currently omits professors observing student teachers in early childhood programs

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Clarifies that requirement for background checks applies to community college faculty working in early childhood programs both on and off campus.

**BACKGROUND:** Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 326.603 generally requires state or national criminal background checks on all education personnel who are not licensed by the Teachers Standards and Practices Commission. ORS 326.603 is currently limited to, "community college faculty providing instruction" at a kindergarten through grade 12 site. Some community colleges offer pre-kindergarten services. While teachers in those programs are currently covered, instructors observing student teachers are not. Senate Bill 104-A extends the existing K-12 background check requirement to all teachers working in community college pre-kindergarten programs, regardless of the location of the program.