

REVENUE: Revenue Statement Issued

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:	Beyer, Knopp, Kruse, Roblan, Hass
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Richard Donovan, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/19, 3/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Abolishes Office of Regional Education Services (ORES). Reverts existing moneys under ORES control to General Fund. Alters funding formula, removing current formula, replacing existing percentage numbers with blank spaces, i.e. “ _____,” to be determined at a later date.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- ORES never fully implemented since 2011 creation
- Outlying statutory problems with ORES, specifically flaws in funding formula which currently totals 100.25 percent and current lack of ORES chief officer causes inability to disseminate funds in a timely manner, as intended
- Potential savings in current Education Service District (ESD) budget, as part of ongoing ESD reform
- Scope of bill as broad, potential further measure to address outstanding policy issues surrounding delivery of ESD-type services statewide

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND: Currently, 19 different ESDs exist statewide. Senate Bill 227-A addresses outstanding statutory problems with the Office of Regional Services, which has not been fully funded or staffed since its creation in 2011. The measure also allows for alterations to the ESD budget in the Committee on Ways and Means, as necessary.