

REVENUE: Revenue statement issued

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Rescind the Subsequent Referral to the Committee on Finance and Revenue and then 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:	3/14, 4/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows virtual public charter school to receive funding for providing supplemental online courses. Allows Department of Education to expend moneys from State School Fund to fund supplemental online courses. Provides that funds to operate program be appropriated from Oregon virtual school district fund instead of state school district fund. Limits total appropriation to the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to \$5.25M for the biennium, rather than \$1.5M every fiscal year. Establishes that method of calculation of the amount received by school district for distribution of supplemental course references “Charter School Rate” rather than weighted Average Daily Membership (ADMw). Directs funds be delivered to school districts, not individual schools. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2013.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Desire to add access to virtual public schools while simultaneously guaranteeing level of quality of courses and course participation at such schools
- Existing inconsistencies, lack of oversight regarding completion of courses in public virtual school system
- Historical performance of virtual public charter schools, need for increased oversight and reform of funding mechanism
- Concerns with delivering funds to school districts rather than schools directly

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Provides that funds to operate program be appropriated from Oregon virtual school district fund instead of state school district fund. Limits total appropriation to the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to \$5.25M for the biennium, rather than \$1.5M every fiscal year. Establishes that method of calculation of the amount received by school district for distribution of supplemental course references “Charter School Rate” rather than weighted Average Daily Membership (ADMw). Directs funds be delivered to school districts, not individual schools. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2013.

BACKGROUND: Currently a wide variety of courses is available through virtual public charter schools, potentially of varying quality. House Bill 666-A provides for alteration of the funding mechanisms for virtual public charter schools to enable fund distribution to those schools only after students successfully complete courses.