77th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2013 Regular Session

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee on Education

REVENUE: No revenue impact FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 6 - 3 - 0

Yeas: Fagan, Gomberg, Gorsek, Huffman, Reardon, Gelser

Nays: Parrish, Sprenger, Whisnant

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Rick Berkobien, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/20, 4/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Oregon prekindergarten programs receiving grants from the Oregon Department of Education to comply with public records and public meetings laws as a condition of receiving grant money. Limits applicability of ORS 192.410 through 192.505 to: 1) records created at a meeting of a governing body; or 2) records presented at a meeting of a governing body; or 3) as otherwise provided by law.

MEASURE: HB 3034 A

CARRIER: Rep. Gorsek

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Intent of amendment
- Executive sessions
- Observers at meetings

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Limits applicability of ORS 192.410 through 192.505 to: 1) records created at a meeting of a governing body; or 2) records presented at a meeting of a governing body; or 3) as otherwise provided by law.

BACKGROUND: According to the Oregon Department of Education's website, there are currently 28 Head Start pre-kindergarten programs that serve children in every county in the state. The purpose is to support school readiness by promoting healthy child development, early learning, and effective teaching strategies.

In 1973, Oregon joined many other states across the country in enacting the Public Records and Public Meetings Laws. The law applies to any "public body," and it defines that term broadly: every state officer, agency, department, division, bureau, board and commission; every county and city governing body, school district, special district, municipal corporation, and any board, department, commission, council or agency thereof; and any other public agency of the state.

A "public record" is any writing that contains information relating to the conduct of public business that is prepared, owned, used or retained by a public body. A "public meeting" is any meeting conducted by a state, regional or local governing body to decide or consider any matter.