

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:	Do Pass and Rescind the Subsequent Referral to the Committee on Ways and Means
Vote:	8 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Fagan, Gomberg, Gorsek, Huffman, Parrish, Reardon, Whisnant, Gelser
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Sprenger
Prepared By:	Rick Berkobien, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/12, 4/15

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Department of Education to conduct an evaluation of the means by which the impact of poverty is addressed by state law, to include: a) Distribution of State School Funds; b) Equivalency standards opportunities to learn across neighborhood and economic circumstances; and, c) Efforts to mitigate disparities in opportunities outside of school day or year. Requires report to the legislature by July 1, 2014. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Number of children in Oregon on free/reduced lunch
- Impact of poverty of learning

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: In 2001, the U.S. Department of Education indicated results “that student and school poverty adversely affected student achievement.” Various earlier studies have found that children who live in persistently poor families score lower on various assessments than children who were never poor, and that those in households that are very poor (below 50% of the poverty line) score worse than children in near-poor (50-100% poverty line) households. According to a 2012 Congressional Research Service Report (*Poverty in the United States: 2011*), over one in five children (21.4%) in the United States (15.5 million) were poor. The U.S. Census Bureau reports that, in 2010, Oregon had 183,859 children living in poverty.