

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure

Vote: 4 - 0 - 1

Yeas: Knopp, Kruse, Roblan, Hass

Nays: 0

Exc.: Beyer

Prepared By: Richard Donovan, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs district school boards to adopt policies for use of personal electronic devices in schools of school district. Requires specified school district personnel to receive annual professional development related to online resources that enable students with print disabilities to receive instructional materials free of charge. Directs district school board to consider whether textbooks and instructional materials are available through online resources free of charge to students with print disabilities when adopting textbook and instructional material lists and to make regular review of availability through online resources.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Success in Canby School District with integrated technology programs, such as using notebooks, tablets, and iPad devices
- Individual success based on near one-to-one ratio of devices to students, enabling students to work at their own pace
- Success with students with specific learning styles based on ability to customize lessons and curriculum
- Non-binding nature of the measure
- Cost savings anticipated based on potential access to free, online text book program offered by the federal government
- Schools technology and network security not threatened by provisions of the measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Personal electronic devices, such as cellular phones and tablet computers, are increasingly common in schools. The Salem Keizer School District added \$500,000 to its technology budget this year, which included \$50,000 for “innovation grants” to teachers who could demonstrate how technology improved learning. One kindergarten teacher received a grant to purchase six new iPads for her classroom after demonstrating how they boosted learning by 21 percent. House Bill 2426-A requires school districts to develop policies to govern the use of personal electronic devices, to determine whether there are free online resources when adopting textbook lists, and to provide professional development for specified employees.

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.