

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Beyer, Knopp, Kruse, Roblan, Hass

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Richard Donovan, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/30

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires district school board to procure United States flag for and cause flag to be displayed in each classroom, and to provide time for students to salute flag once weekly during school hours. Extends requirements related to United States and Oregon State flags to public charter schools. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2013.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Current law applicable to public schools generally requiring schools to display the United States flag in every classroom, and that time for salutation to the flag every week be enabled
- Lack of certainty that law is applicable to public charter school
- Measure as giving opportunity to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, not requiring recitation

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Requires public charter schools to make time available for salutation of the United States flag once per week; requires that a United States flag be displayed in each classroom.

BACKGROUND: Currently, Oregon public schools are required to display United States and Oregon flags near school buildings. Schools are also required to give students a chance to salute the flag, but only once a week. The Pledge of Allegiance of the United States is an expression of loyalty to the federal flag and the republic of the United States of America, originally composed by Francis Bellamy in 1892 and formally adopted by Congress as the pledge in 1942.