

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	9 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Fagan, Gomberg, Gorsek, Huffman, Parrish, Reardon, Sprenger, Whisnant, Gelser
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Rick Berkobien, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/29

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Revises definition of public employer to include education service districts (ESD) and school districts. Adds ESDs to list of entities for transfer of public employees. Removes prohibition against non-profit corporation as public employer. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Changes which occur with ESDs
- Personal stories of what happens when ESDs undergo such transfers
- People eliminated from long term jobs
- Intent of legislation
- Collective bargaining activities
- Contracting
- Reason for emergency clause

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Adds emergency clause to measure.

BACKGROUND: In 1945, the Oregon Legislature created the county “rural school district.” The name was changed to “education service district” (ESD) in 1977. The mission of ESDs is “to assist school districts and the Department of Education in achieving Oregon’s educational goals by providing equitable, high quality, cost-effective and locally responsive educational services at a regional level.” Today there are 19 ESDs serving Oregon’s 36 counties.

Oregon law gives public employees certain rights when their job duties are acquired by another public employer. The public employer that receives the job duties must transfer the employee’s job and may not reduce his or her salary within the first 12 months of employment. However, under current law ESD employees do not have any rights to move with work in the case of an ESD merger, consolidation, or transfer of work. In the case of ESD employees, they must apply for positions as they are posted. Senate Bill 643 would give ESD employees transfer rights in these instances.