

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Be Adopted as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	3 - 2 - 0
Yeas:	Beyer, Burdick, Rosenbaum
Nays:	Ferrioli, Starr
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Lori Brocker, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	6/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Proposes amendment to Oregon Constitution to finance corpus of Oregon Student Opportunity Fund. Allows use of moneys for lawful purpose if emergency is declared by Governor and use is approved by four-fifths of Legislative Assembly members present in each house and if Legislative Assembly has approved plan to replenish fund on appropriate terms. Allows use of all or portion of moneys in fund to pay principal of, interest on and premium on indebtedness incurred under measure provisions if emergency is declared by Governor and use is approved by four-fifths of Legislative Assembly members present in each house. Establishes next general election as date for referral on ballot.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Purpose of measure and amendments
- The Opportunity Initiative
- Opportunity Grant assistance to students
- Connection between agency and bonding obligation
- Impact of 40-40-20 goals on business community
- Post-secondary education student need
- Connections of measure to implementation mechanisms in Senate Bill 11 (2013)
- Endowment that could be used for student aid program
- Nature of ballot referral procedure
- Student debt and impact of debt load on society
- Potential impact of measure on taxpayers
- Indebtedness language in measure
- Potential impact of current interest rates on decisions related to indebtedness
- Potential impact of measure on student education

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Changes “held in trust” to “used” in reference to fund. Allows use of moneys for lawful purpose if emergency is declared by Governor and use is approved by four-fifths of Legislative Assembly members present in each house and if Legislative Assembly has approved plan to replenish fund on appropriate terms. Allows use of all or portion of moneys in fund to pay principal of, interest on and premium on indebtedness incurred under measure provisions if emergency is declared by Governor and use is approved by four-fifths of Legislative Assembly members present in each house. Establishes next general election as date for referral on ballot.

BACKGROUND: Senate Joint Resolution 1A is a proposed constitutional amendment linked to Senate Bill 11 (2013), which provides a mechanism to implement the constitutional change if SJR 1A is enacted. The combined measures would allow the state to create a fund to finance student aid programs.

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