

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 5 - 0 - 0
Yeas: Beyer, Knopp, Kruse, Roblan, Hass
Nays: 0
Exc.: 0
Prepared By: Richard Donovan, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 4/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to consult with specified entities when developing academic content standards for Oregon Studies and preparing materials to support teacher training and classroom instruction in Oregon Studies.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History, lack of implementation since passage of similar 1999 law
- Future of Oregon as multi-racial, multi-ethnic, and multi-religious
- Awareness of history, contributions of specific people from a variety of different backgrounds as inspirational to students
- Lack of current Oregon-specific history curriculum atypical; most other states require more state-specific history to be taught than Oregon currently does
- Broad support by commissions representing ethnic groups, including the Advocacy Commissions on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs, Black Affairs, and Hispanic Affairs
- No testimony against the measure in committee

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: In 1999, the Legislature required that the Oregon Department of Education (ODE), in consultation with the Oregon Historical Society (OHS), develop standards and prepare materials for Oregon Studies. Funding was not allocated to the Oregon Department of Education for this work. Similar legislation in subsequent legislative sessions has been introduced but not enacted.