78th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2015 Regular Session MEASURE: SB 84

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee on Education

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, statement not yet issued FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

Action: Vote:

Yeas: Nays: Exc.:

Prepared By: Gretchen Engbring, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/24, 3/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires school districts to provide accelerated college credit program at each high school in district. Specifies program and course requirements, program standards, and reporting requirements. Establishes funding mechanisms. Defines terms. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

CARRIER:

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Findings of the Accelerated Learning Committee
- Student transition from secondary to post-secondary education
- Rigor of accelerated college credit programs
- Oversight and safeguards to ensure rigor and student success
- Consequences for successful existing programs
- Online supplements to courses versus exclusively online courses
- Need for subsequent referral

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

- -1 amendments (proposed) clarify online resources supporting accelerated credit programs. Specifies regulations related to partnerships to provide accelerated credit courses between school districts or high schools and post-secondary educational institutions. First applies provisions to 2016-2017 school year. Modifies payment structure for school districts offering college-level courses.
- -2 amendments (proposed) remove requirement that course may not be exclusively provided online.
- -3 amendments (proposed) remove requirement that course may not be exclusively provided online. Specifies regulations related to partnerships to provide accelerated credit courses between school districts or high schools and post-secondary educational institutions. First applies provisions to 2016-2017 school year. Modifies payment structure for school districts offering college-level courses.

BACKGROUND: Senate Bill 254 (2011) created an oversight system and grant program administered by the Department of Education to support accelerated college credit programs, including dual credit, two-plus-two, advanced placement, and International Baccalaureate programs.

Senate Bill 222 (2013) established the Accelerated Learning Committee to examine methods to encourage and enable students to obtain college credits while still in high school. The committee, which met between October 2013 and October 2014, released a report on their findings in 2014. Recommendations from the committee included additional funding and legislation to provide access at every Oregon high school to at least three college credit courses at no cost to students and their families.