

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Education

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, statement not yet issued

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO: Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Gretchen Engbring, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Increases threshold under which school district may receive additional State School Fund moneys for students eligible for special education. Increases amount transferred by Department of Education (ODE) from State School Fund to High Cost Disabilities Account. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND: ORS 327.013 regulates weighted average daily membership (ADMw) calculations. An amount is added for each student in average daily membership eligible for special education, but may not exceed 11 percent of the district’s ADM without review and approval by ODE. Senate Bill 896 proposes to increase this threshold under which school districts may receive additional State School Fund from 11 to 13 percent.

ORS 327.348 establishes the High Cost Disabilities Account within the State School Fund. ODE is required to distribute money from the account to school districts that have a resident pupil with a disability for whom the approved costs to the school district of providing special education and related services exceed \$30,000. Senate Bill 896 proposes to increase the amount transferred by ODE from the State School Fund to the High Cost Disabilities Account from the current \$18 million to \$36 million.