78th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2015 Regular Session MEASURE: SB 957

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee on Education

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

Action: Vote:

Yeas: Nays: Exc.:

Prepared By: Gretchen Engbring, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/14, 4/16, 4/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Prohibits State Board of Education from establishing certain standards for instructional time unless moneys available for state's system of kindergarten through grade 12 public education meet specified percentage of amount of moneys determined to be sufficient by Quality Education Commission. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

CARRIER:

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Impact of additional instructional hours on student extracurricular activities, college and university applications, and students who need to work while in school
- Concern regarding value of additional "empty" instructional hours
- Lack of awareness around rulemaking process
- Need for additional funding to provide more instructional hours
- Rulemaking process that led to adoption of OAR 581-022-1620
- Concern around students receiving significantly less instruction at some schools

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND: In January of 2015 the State Board of Education adopted revisions to OAR 581-022-1620, Required Instructional Time. Among other changes, the revisions: 1) required that districts ensure at least 92% of students are scheduled to receive the minimum instructional hours and that each school operated by a district is providing at least 80% of minimum instructional hours; 2) specified how many hours constitute a full day of kindergarten; 3) increased instructional time for students in grades 1-3; and 4) provided a 4-year implementation timeline for the requirement that districts ensure a certain percentage of students are scheduled to receive the minimum instructional hours. The revisions to OAR 581-022-1620 established the following minimum hours of instructional time: 1) grades kindergarten to eight - 900 hours; 2) Grades nine to 11 - 990 hours; and 3) grade 12 - 966 hours.

Senate Bill 957 establishes that standards may include requirements for instructional time, except that (unless the amount of moneys available for the state's system of kindergarten through grade 12 public education is at least 83 percent of the amount of moneys determined to be sufficient by the Quality Education Commission) the standards may not prescribe a requirement that: 1) students in kindergarten through grade 3 be provided more than 810 hours of instructional time per year; 2) students in grades four through eight be provided more than 900 hours of instructional time per year; 3) students in grades nine through 12 be provided more than 990 hours of instructional time per year; or 4) a specified percentage of students of the school district be scheduled to receive the minimum hours of instructional time per year.