

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Human Services and Early Childhood

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO: None

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Cheyenne Ross, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs Department of Human Services to provide for participation in extracurricular activities for children in its care, in coordination with agencies and foster parents. Defines “extracurricular activities.” Defines “reasonable and prudent parenting standards.”

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND: More than 8,000 children are currently in the foster care system in Oregon. For those who are school aged, access to extracurricular activities is not always possible due to a variety of barriers, including fees and transportation. Activities such as drama, sports, music, debate, fine arts, science club, student government, and others, don’t merely add to a child’s educational and social experience, but are critical to overall physical, social, emotional, and academic development. Extracurricular activities are also important avenues for exploration and self-expression.

House Bill 2890-A directs the Department of Human Services to allow for and support foster youth participation in developmentally-appropriate extracurricular activities.

House Committee: 9 – 0 – 0

House Floor: 59 – 0 – 1