

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Education

REVENUE: Revenue statement issued

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO: Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

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Meeting Dates: 5/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Increases amount transferred from State School Fund (SSF) to High Cost Disabilities Account each fiscal year from \$18 million to \$35 million. First applies to 2015-16 school year SSF distributions. Takes effect on July 1, 2015.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND: In 2003, the Legislature passed Senate Bill 550, which created the High Cost Disability Grant. Initially, this measure transferred \$12 million per year from the SSF to the High Costs Disabilities Account to pay for the approved special education costs that exceeded a threshold of \$25,000 per student per year. House Bill 2450C (2005) raised this threshold to \$30,000 per student, and a revision to ORS 327.008(8) in 2007 additionally increased the amount transferred to the account from \$12 to \$18 million per year. If the grand total of the grants initially exceed \$18 million, the grants to all school districts are proportionately reduced.

House Bill 2927 A proposes to increase the amount transferred from the SSF to the High Cost Disabilities Account, beginning with the 2015-16 SSF distributions.