

**HB 3499**

**Relating to English language learners programs**

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HB 3499 establishes an English Language Learners program, or ELL program, within the Oregon Department of Education. The Department is required to develop a statewide ELL plan. Based on reporting by each school district, the Department shall identify districts that are not meeting statewide goals and may be in need of technical assistance.

The bill includes requirements that the Department establish two workgroups or advisory groups. The first group is to develop uniform budget coding and reporting requirements to provide for transparency of district spending on ELL students. The second group is to identify criteria for determining if districts are meeting the needs of ELL students, the information necessary for annual district reporting on ELL student progress, guidelines on the reporting, what types of technical assistance is required, and best practices for long-term ELL students. The State Board of Education is required to adopt rules after considering the work of the groups.

This ELL program is funded with a \$12.5 million distribution, or carve-out, from the State School Fund. HB 3499 provides a permanent carve-out and the Subcommittee recommends an amendment which repeals the one-time carve-out for 2015-17 included in the State School Fund bill passed earlier in session.

The Education Subcommittee recommends HB 3499 be amended by the -A4 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.