

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date:

Action:

Meeting Dates:

Prepared By: Krista McDowell, Fiscal Analyst

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Department of Education to administer process for providing funding for activities related to annual conference dedicated to Oregon civics and held on Oregon Civics Day for Teachers. Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Department of Education for purpose of conference. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The bill is designed to get people actively engaged in politics
- Costs are a little over \$500 per teacher to attend the conference

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Strikes the appropriation clause from the bill.

BACKGROUND:

SB 374 (2009), codified as ORS 336.029, established the first Friday in December as “Oregon Civics Day for Teachers.” It is a professional development day, with the goal of aiding educators in providing quality instruction in the area of civics. House Bill 2599 amends ORS 336.029 to require the Department of Education to administer a process for providing funding for activities related to an annual conference dedicated to Oregon civics and held on Oregon Civics Day for Teachers. This funding must be used to award grants to two public school teachers from each legislative district for expenses incurred to attend the conference, assist a nonprofit organization with operating expenses incurred in relation to the conference, and provide technical and professional assistance to teachers who attend the conference. Additionally, the measure includes an appropriation to the Department of Education for this purpose from the General Fund in the amount of \$200,000 per biennium.