

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 04/14/15

Action: Do Pass And Requesting Referral To Ways And Means.

Meeting Dates: 04/09, 04/14

Vote:

Yeas: 6 - Beyer, Gelser, Hass, Knopp, Kruse, Roblan

Exc: 1 - Baertschiger Jr

Prepared By: Gretchen Engbring, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Department of Education (ODE) to assist public educational entities with developing regional service delivery systems for purpose of providing efficient and effective services for public educational entities. Appropriates moneys from General Fund to ODE for purpose of providing grants.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of task forces and work groups on the topic
- Types of services that Education Service Districts (ESDs) and regional service delivery systems may provide
- Challenges facing small, rural schools in providing services
- Costs and benefits of collaborating at a regional level
- Costs associated with developing a regional service delivery system
- Potential for employee displacement

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill 536 requires ODE to assist public education entities with developing regional service delivery systems for the purpose of providing efficient and effective services for public education entities. The bill requires ODE to award grants to entities to assist with the payment of expenses incurred while developing a regional service delivery system. For the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, Senate Bill 536 appropriates \$300,000 to ODE out of the General fund to be expended on these grants.