

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**Senate Committee On Education****Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued**Revenue:** Revenue impact issued**Action Date:** 04/21/15**Action:** Without Recommendation As To Adoption And Be Referred To Finance
And Revenue.**Meeting Dates:** 04/16, 04/21**Vote:**

Yeas: 4 - Beyer, Gelsler, Hass, Roblan

Nays: 3 - Baertschiger Jr, Knopp, Kruse

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Proposes amendment to Oregon Constitution directing Legislative Assembly to establish education support fund consisting of revenues from sales tax imposed at rate not to exceed unspecified percent. Prohibits moneys appropriated from education support fund from supplanting other appropriations by Legislative Assembly to fund public education. Refers proposed amendment to people for approval or rejection at next regular general election.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of sales tax proposals on the ballot in Oregon
- Potential revenue generated through sales tax
- Need for additional funding for education

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

According to the Oregon Blue Book, approximately \$8.6 billion out of the \$16.8 billion that makes up the general fund was dedicated to kindergarten to grade 12 and other education from 2013 to 2015. General Fund dollars come primarily from income taxes paid by individual Oregonians and Oregon businesses. Education funding also comes from the Lottery Fund, federal funds, and other funding sources. Oregon does not currently have a general sales tax. Senate Joint Resolution 18 proposes an amendment to the Oregon Constitution, which, if approved by the public at the next general election, would establish an education support fund consisting of revenues from a newly imposed sales tax.