

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 04/21/15

Action: Do Pass With Amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Meeting Dates: 03/31, 04/21

Vote:

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

Nays: 1 - Baertschiger Jr

Prepared By: Gretchen Engbring, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Modifies provisions to allow students who are not residents of school district to attend school in school district. Modifies criteria district school board may consider when deciding whether to admit non-resident student. Modifies criteria district school board may use to prioritize students if number of students seeking admission exceeds imposed limitations. Allows priority to students who attended a public charter school in district for at least three consecutive years, completed highest grade offered by charter, and did not enroll in and attend school in other district following completion of highest grade offered by public charter. Allows district school board to revoke consent for nonresident students for failure to comply with minimum standards for behavior or attendance. Specifies requirements for length of time for which consent is given to nonresident students. Prohibits school districts and public charter school from specified advertising. Requires district school board to give consent to student whose legal residence changes to different school district during summer prior to school year, to enable student to complete school year following summer in school district. Allows district school board to request information or give consent to student in event of hardship of student, as determined based on rules adopted by State Board of Education. Modifies information district school board may require prior to deciding whether to give consent. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of legislation that regulates interdistrict transfers, open enrollment and other means of transfer
- Confusion arising from different legislation and means of moving between districts
- Issue of districts accepting out-of-district students, but not allowing students within their district to attend school elsewhere
- Impact of legislation on charter schools
- Potential negative impacts of school advertising
- Concerns regarding a “cap” on students coming in or leaving a district

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

Four pieces of legislation primarily impact student transfers in Oregon, including: House Bill 3681 (2011) which established open enrollment in Oregon; House Bill 2747 (2013) which altered rules regarding interdistrict transfers; House Bill 3075 (2013) which modified open enrollment; and House Bill 4007 (2014) which modified rules for students who had been granted transfers in previous years.

Senate Bill 709-A builds on this legislation, modifying provisions of ORS 339.127 regarding the regulation of student transfers. Senate Bill 709-A alters both the criteria that school districts may contemplate when considering the admission of a nonresident student as well as the guidelines districts must adhere to after consenting to admit or when revoking consent for a nonresident student. The bill establishes further provisions under which nonresident students may be prioritized or must be admitted. The bill additionally prohibits specified advertising by school districts and public charter schools.