

Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2015 Regular Session
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
House Committee On Education

MEASURE: SB 709 B
CARRIER: Rep. Piluso

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 05/27/15

Action: Do Pass As Amended And Be Printed Engrossed.

Meeting Dates: 05/20, 05/27

Vote:

Yeas: 9 - Barreto, Doherty, Frederick, Hack, McLain, Piluso, Reardon, Sprenger, Wilson

Prepared By: Richard Donovan, 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 be given to students who attended 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 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. Allows district to offer same preferences for outgoing students as are offered for incoming students in case of interdistrict transfer. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of legislation regulating interdistrict transfers, open enrollment, and other means of transfer
- Confusion arising from different legislation and means of moving between districts
- Concerns regarding generally confusing nature of process of transfers- variety of options, timelines, etc.
- Stakeholder engagement as leading to content of measure
- Measure as technical in nature, aimed at fixing outcomes unforeseen during drafting of existing law

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Alters language to allow district to offer same preferences for outgoing students as are offered for incoming students in case of interdistrict transfer.

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-B builds on this legislation, modifying provisions of ORS 339.127 regarding the regulation of student transfers. The bill alters both the criteria that school districts may contemplate when considering the admission of a nonresident student as well as the guidelines districts must follow 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. Additionally, the bill prohibits specified advertising by school districts and public charter schools.