

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**Senate Committee On Rules****Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued**Revenue:** Revenue impact issued**Action Date:** 05/26/15**Action:** Do Pass With Amendments And Requesting Referral To Ways And Means.
(Printed A-Engrossed.)**Meeting Dates:** 05/21, 05/26**Vote:**

Yeas: 4 - Beyer, Boquist, Ferrioli, Rosenbaum

Exc: 1 - Burdick

Prepared By: Erin Seiler, Committee Administrator**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Establishes Age Three Through Grade Three Reading Initiative within Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to ensure all students can read at grade level by end of grade three. Requires ODE award extended learning grants and professional development grants to school districts. Specifies grant eligibility requirements, grant application process, and criteria for determining grant amounts. Requires school districts have memorandum of understanding with one or more community-based organizations, unless granted waiver by ODE, and early reading program with specified focus to qualify for extended learning grant. Requires ODE provide specified services to ensure staff development for early childhood service providers and public providers of kindergarten through grade three. Requires ODE identify early literacy curriculum. Allows ODE to provide funds to school districts to purchase early literacy curriculum. Establishes Age Three Through Grade Three Reading Initiative Account in State Treasury distinct from General Fund and continuously appropriates moneys from account to ODE. Makes grants first available for use by school districts for summer of 2016. Defines what "community-based organization" may include. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of amendment
- Ability to deliver services to students in rural Oregon
- Utilization of Early Learning Hubs to reach children

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Replaces original measure.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 3232 (2013) established the Oregon Early Reading Program, which includes funds to be directed by the Early Learning Council for the purpose of strengthening early literacy among children ages 0-6 and with the intention of improving children's kindergarten readiness and third grade reading proficiency. House Bill 2013 (2013) created the Early Learning Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation Fund, also directed by the Early Learning Council, in order to provide funding for communities to pilot approaches for linking early learning and kindergarten.

Senate Bill 214-A continues previous efforts to improve early reading skills in preparation for entering school, by establishing the Age Three Through Grade Three Reading Initiative within ODE to ensure that all students can read at grade level by the end of grade three. The measure requires ODE award extended learning grants and professional development grants to school districts to implement the initiative.