

House Bill 2648

Sponsored by Representative SPRENGER, Senators ROBLAN, THOMSEN, Representative KOMP (at the request of Oregon Outdoor Education Coalition) (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Establishes Outdoor Education Account for purpose of providing outdoor school programs.
Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Oregon Department of Administrative Services for deposit in account.
Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to funding for outdoor school; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2015 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 327.

SECTION 2. (1) The Outdoor Education Account is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Outdoor Education Account shall be credited to the account.

(2) Moneys in the Outdoor Education Account are continuously appropriated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for use by the Oregon State University Extension Service to provide students in the fifth and sixth grades with an outdoor school program that:

(a) Is a six-day, residential, hands-on educational experience featuring field study opportunities for students learning about:

(A) Soil, water, plants and animals;

(B) The role of timber, agriculture and other natural resources in the economy of this state;

(C) The interrelationship of nature, natural resources, economic development and career opportunities in this state; and

(D) The importance of preserving this state's environment and natural resources.

(b) Is integrated with local school curricula in a manner that assists students in meeting state standards related to science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and international standards related to science.

(c) Provides students with opportunities to develop leadership, critical thinking and decision-making skills.

(d) Addresses the inequity of outdoor educational opportunities for underserved children in this state.

SECTION 3. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$44,000,000, for deposit in the Outdoor Education Account established under section 2 of this 2015 Act.

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **SECTION 4. This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
2 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect**
3 **July 1, 2015.**

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