

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 02/08/16

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

Meeting Dates: 02/08

Vote:

Yeas: 6 - Baertschiger Jr, Beyer, Gelser, Knopp, Kruse, Roblan

Exc: 1 - Hass

Prepared By: Richard Donovan, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Transfers reporting requirements related to English language learner programs from school districts to Department of Education. Adjusts timelines for making reports. Requires each school district to make reported information available annually, September 1 of each year, at both school district main office and on school district website. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of English Language Learner (ELL) programs, including major revisions of existing programs via HB 3499 (2015)
- Value of properly audited data
- Desire of school districts to avoid duplicative reports

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Requires each school district to make reported information available annually, September 1 of each year, at both the school district's main office and on the school district website.

BACKGROUND:

Currently, under the distribution formula for the State School Fund, students designated as belonging to "English language learning" category receive an additional 0.5 weight, for a total weighted Average Daily Membership (ADMw) of 1.5. Within the broad category of ELL programs, there is no specific restriction, and limited reporting, around how this money may be spent. House Bill 3499 (2015) represented a broad overhaul of ELL programs policy.

Senate Bill 1564-A transfers reporting requirements established by House Bill 3499 (2015) from school districts to the Oregon Department of Education. It also adjusts timelines for making reports to accommodate departmental data and reporting best practices, and requires that reported information be made available in school district offices and on school district websites.