79th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2017 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

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Measure Description:

Prescribes requirements for guidance counselors in schools.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Education, School Districts, Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

Analysis:

The bill, as amended, requires that each school district ensure that students have access to guidance counselors who are licensed by the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) or meet qualifications specified by rule by the State Board of Education.

This fiscal impact statement is for the purpose of transmitting the measure from the House Committee on Education to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means. The bill may result in a revenue decrease for TSPC if school counselors and social workers are no longer required to be licensed by the agency. The TSPC currently issues licenses for 1,092 school counselors, and 37 social workers. These Licenses are renewed on an annual, three-year, or five-year basis, therefore the revenue reduction will likely be observed over the course of several biennia as these licenses lapse. The overall impact of the revenue reduction, and any associated reduction is TSPC staffing levels, is indeterminate as the number of counselors and social workers opting not to be licensed by the TSPC is unknown at this time. A more complete fiscal analysis on the bill will be prepared as the measure is considered in the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

The fiscal impact to school districts, and the Department of Education-State Board of Education is estimated to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgetary parameters.