

SJR 37 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Sub-Referral To: Senate Committee On Rules

Meeting Dates: 3/16, 4/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Amends the constitution. Assigns responsibility for establishing policies for the administration and operation of public elementary and secondary schools, community colleges, and public universities to the State Board of Education (SBE). Requires the SBE to appoint the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Prohibits the State Board of Education from establishing policies relating to community colleges and public universities until July 1, 2020.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Structure of educational system in Oregon

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND:

Currently, the Governor serves as Superintendent of Public Instruction. Senate Bill 552 (2011) named the Governor Superintendent and gave the Governor the authority to appoint the Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction, who oversees the Department of Education. According to the Council of Chief State School Officers, states select their chief state school officers as follows:

- 17 states' chief state school officers (CSSOs) are appointed by governors;
- 20 states' CSSOs are appointed by state boards of education; and
- 13 states elect their CSSOs.