SB 1047 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 4/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to develop and adopt a model plan for testing school facilities for environmental hazards by January 1,2019. Establishes the Healthy School Facilities Fund and allows ODE to transfer up to \$2 million from the State School Fund for use by the department. Allows ODE's Office of School Facilities to award grants of up to \$25,000 for assessment of school facilities for potential environmental hazards.

Requires school districts and public charter schools to submit plans for testing all facilities based on ODE's model by June 30, 2019. Establishes program requirements. Requires school districts and public charter schools to make test results public. Requires school districts and public charter schools to make annual statements relating to environmental hazard plans. Identifies requirements for annual statements.

Requires the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to adopt rules relating to environmental hazards in schools, school facility inspections, staff training and notification, and conflicts of interest. Requires OHA to publish information sheets for school districts and public charter schools. Allows OHA to adopt rules relating to lead paint, diesel exhaust, and mold in school facilities.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND:

In 2013, a U.S. Forest Service study of moss in Portland revealed high levels of cadmium and arsenic in neighborhoods and near schools. The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality confirmed the findings in October, 2016. During June and July, 2016, Portland Public Schools tested lead levels in water sources at its schools. High lead levels were found at most school buildings.