Legislative Fiscal Office

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Joint Committee on Ways and Means

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To: Ways and Means Full Committee

From: Education Subcommittee

Re: SB 20 Relating to federal education law

Senator Thomsen: "SB 20 provides changes to Oregon law to conform with the recently passed federal Every Student Succeeds Act, or ESSA.

ESSA replaces the federal No Child Left Behind Act so there are numerous reference changes in this bill recognizing the new federal law. Other conforming changes include making the modified diploma equivalent to a high school diploma, and changes in policy relating to the federal requirement that a child in foster care remain in his or her school of origin unless it is in the best interest of the child to stay in school.

The fiscal impact of this bill deals with transportation costs for the children in foster care. The bill directs the Department of Education and the Department of Human Services to insure the child has free transportation to school. The two agencies will enter into an agreement where DHS funds will be used to make up the difference in costs between the actual costs and the amount paid by the transportation grant under the school funding formula.

The Education Subcommittee recommends SB 20 be reported out do pass."