SB 182 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Prepared By:Doug Wilson, Budget AnalystMeeting Dates:6/5, 6/30, 7/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes the Educator Advancement Council charged with duties related to distributing resources for professional learning supports and sets in motion planning and development of local educator networks across the state. These local networks can leverage resources from other partners and be more responsive to local professional learning needs identified by educators. Replaces the Network for Quality Teaching and Learning (NQTL) with an Educator Advancement Council and renames the Network Fund to become the Educator Advancement Fund effective June 30, 2019. Defines the responsibilities for the Chief Education Offices and the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) as it relates to the statewide Educator Advancement Council and the local networks. Provides a mechanism to connect Early Learning Council efforts with the Educator Advancement Council to establish policies and practices to address Early Educator professional learning needs and improve supports for early learning educators. Authorizes the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to establish and administer new scholarship funds through OSAC to support culturally or linguistically diverse teacher candidates in support of the Oregon Educator Equity Act.

The timeline for this bill calls for a transition during 2017-19 with the statewide Educator Advancement Council and local networks being formed in the first year of the biennium. In the second year, the local networks are eligible to receive NQTL funding as they form and the Statewide Council plays a role in prioritizing NTQL funding decisions. Starting in 2019-21, the Council and local networks are the primary vehicle for funding and guiding educator professional development relating to state resources.

The Council is required to report back to the Legislature by January 15, 2018 on its progress and plans. The amendment also changes the way the State School Fund Carve-out for the Network for Quality and Learning is adjusted each biennium. Current law has the amount of the carve-out changing the same amount as the State School Fund overall. Under the amendment, it will grow at the same rate as the inflation rate used by state agencies in budget development.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Importance of professional development
- Training and professional development always one of the first things reduced when budgets are tight
- Structure of statewide council and local networks

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

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BACKGROUND:

Governor Brown established the Council on Educator Advancement in March, 2016 via Executive Order 16-08. The council, comprised of 17 members, was tasked with recommending key strategies to the Governor for ensuring that Oregon's educators have access to mentoring, specialized professional learning and opportunities for leadership development. The members include teachers, administrators and representatives of higher education as well as legislators, the Chief Education Officer, the Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Executive Director of the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission and the Early Learning System Director.

The council issued a report in November, 2016, and made 10 recommendations relating to educator preparation, support for novice teachers and administrators, professional learning, teacher leadership and the establishment of regional networks.