

**SB 5516**

**Department of Education**

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SB 5516 is the budget bill for the Oregon Department of Education. This agency provides technical assistance, funding, and oversight of programs relating to K-12 education, early learning, and youth development. The agency also is responsible for distributing the State School Fund and operating the School for the Deaf. The Education Subcommittee recommends a budget of \$2.6 billion total funds, with \$818.1 million General Fund, \$651,225 Lottery Funds, \$323.8 million Other Funds, and \$1.4 billion Federal Funds.

Major General Fund investments in this budget include:

- \$170 million for Ballot Measure 98 grants to districts for drop-out prevention, college-level education opportunities, and career and technical education. This investment accounts for almost all the General Fund increase over the current service level.
- \$1.8 million is designated for developing a Native American curriculum recognizing the cultural heritage, history and language of Oregon's nine recognized tribes.
- \$7.4 million is for an initiative to address chronic absenteeism in schools.

New positions are added to the Early Learning Division for meeting the new federal requirements for background checks for child care providers who were not subject to the checks in the past. Offsetting these new positions is the elimination of 15 positions that have been vacant for an extended period or were identified as no longer needed.

The Education Subcommittee recommends SB 5516 be amended by the –1 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.