

HB 2257 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Vial

House Committee On Education

Action Date: 02/06/17

Action: Do Pass.

Vote: 9-0-0-0

Yeas: 9 - Doherty, Evans, Hernandez, McLain, Parrish, Sollman, Sprenger, Vial, Wilson

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: Has minimal revenue impact

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to waive fees for textbook titles or instructional materials if the title is a teaching and learning resource available in the public domain or has been released under intellectual property license that permits free use. Allows ODE to waive fee if the textbook format resides in the public domain or has been released under intellectual property license.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- No expected change in revenue for Oregon Department of Education (ODE)
- No fees previously received by ODE for openly licensed materials

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

On an annual basis, the Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction solicits textbooks and instructional material publishers to submit their publications for review and potential approval. Upon review and approval, these resources are then published on the state-approved list. School districts may choose to use them. State law requires a review fee equal to the cost of the textbook, or \$50, whichever is greater. This fee is required for each textbook or instructional material that is proposed by the publisher. In 2015, the U.S. Department of Education launched an initiative titled, GoOpen, which encourages schools to use openly licensed materials. The new regulation requires that any materials created using grant funding become openly licensed material. Creators of these instructional materials have expressed difficulty paying the fee in order to be on the state-approved list.

House Bill 2257 allows ODE to waive the fee for a textbook title or an instructional material if the title is a teaching and learning resource that is available in the public domain or been released under an intellectual property license that permits its free use.