

HB 2534 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Economic Development and Trade

Action Date: 02/15/17

Action: Without recommendation as to passage, be referred to Human Services and Housing, and then to Ways and Means by prior reference.

Vote: 7-0-2-0

Yeas: 7 - Gomberg, Lininger, Marsh, Olson, Post, Reschke, Smith DB

Exc: 2 - Clem, Helm

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: Has minimal revenue impact

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes the Community Leverage Fund as of January 1, 2018. Directs the Oregon Business Development Department (Business Oregon) to make grants and loans to fund proposals that address outcomes in health, early learning, workforce and economic development and education. Allows counties, cities, school districts, post-secondary institutions, early learning hubs, regional achievement collaboratives, workforce investment boards or regional solutions advisory committees to apply for grants and loans. Specifies that grants and loans be distributed in substantially equal amounts among economic development regions in state. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Contents of the measure
- Topics of future proposed amendments

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

According to the 2015 American Community Survey one year estimate, 15.4 percent of Oregonians live in poverty. For someone to be considered to be living in poverty in a four person household, that household would have to make \$24,250 or less in a year. Someone living alone would have to make \$11,770 or less to be considered to be living in poverty.

House Bill 2534 would create the Community Leverage Fund (Fund) to be administered by Business Oregon. The bill would allow community organizations to propose projects to the Fund that improve outcomes related to health, early learning, economic development, and education. House Bill 2534 also stipulates that grants and loans given by the Fund must be made in roughly equal proportions throughout the state's economic development regions.