

HB 2382 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

Action Date: 03/06/17

Action: Do pass with amendments
and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 8-0-1-0

Yeas: 8 - Doherty, Evans, Hernandez, McLain, Sollman, Sprenger, Vial, Wilson

Exc: 1 - Parrish

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and Future Farmers of America (FFA) Association to coordinate to increase student achievement and improve attendance for those enrolled in agricultural courses or programs. Requires ODE and FFA to coordinate on a number of matters including to provide FFA's general and financial administration, membership activities, and management. Appropriates \$1,800,000 out of the General Fund beginning July 1, 2017 for the Oregon FFA Association to provide financial support for program developments.

Establishes ODE grant program to allow school district personnel to manage agricultural and science educational programs during the summer months. Requires that school districts applying for these grants maintain teachers with valid teaching licenses, have a calendar of activities, have an eight-hour school day, and meet reporting requirements. Amends Ballot Measure 98 to allow the High School Graduation and College and Career Readiness Fund to pay for the grant program. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Importance of Future Farmers of America and Career Technical Student Organizations on students' education
- Allowance of funds from Ballot Measure 98 to cover the costs of the grant program
- Requirement that students enroll in the National Future Farmers of America Organization if they enroll in school agricultural education programs for a minimum of one course

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Removes the requirement that Oregon Department of Education establish an incentive grant program to support public school agricultural and science programs in areas of curriculum content; science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education; experiential learning; and student leadership development.

BACKGROUND:

Prior to 2011, Oregon provided funding for the Oregon Future Farmers of America (FFA) program through the Oregon Department of Education (ODE). Since then, the FFA became privately funded through the FFA Foundation, which included relying on volunteers and donations for revenue. House Bill 2382-A directs the ODE and Oregon FFA to coordinate in a number of ways, including coordination to provide FFA's general and financial administration, communication, membership activities, and management. Appropriates \$1,800,000 out of the General Fund beginning July 1, 2017 for the Oregon FFA Association to provide financial support for program developments. HB 2382-A enrolls grades 9 through 12 students as members of the National FFA Organization if they are participating in a school agricultural education program. It provides financial support for FFA leadership development and training

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activities. It requires ODE and FFA to coordinate FFA's participation in the Oregon State Fair, student recognition and awards programs in conjunction with state and national FFA conventions, and state level competitive events throughout the year focused on agricultural career exploration and preparation.

HB 2382-A directs the ODE to establish grant programs to support public school agricultural programs during the summer months. It directs that grant expenses be paid from the High School Graduation and College and Career Readiness Fund.