

***Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official***

Prepared by: Krista Dauenhauer
Reviewed by: Doug Wilson
Date: 3/21/2017

Measure Description:

Directs Department of Education to develop professional development courses related to guidance and counseling programs, to make courses electronically available and to provide technical assistance and other training related to courses.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Education

Analysis:

The bill requires the Department of Education (ODE) to develop courses for guidance and counseling programs for students in kindergarten through grade 12. The courses must be made available electronically to all school districts in Oregon, and ODE must also provide technical assistance and other training to school districts and counselors. The bill has a blank General Fund (GF) appropriation clause to ODE for the 2017-19 biennium.

ODE currently has an existing Education Specialist position which will be responsible for collaborating to develop the course work prescribed by the bill and to provide training and other technical assistance to school districts. Development of the coursework, including consultation with experts and contracting for the course design, is estimated at a one-time cost \$25,000 GF in the 2017-19 biennium. The cost for electronically providing professional development courses through the Canvas system is currently \$3.75 per user. If the course is utilized by at least one person per public school, the cost estimate would be \$9,383 per biennium; this estimate is likely based on the minimum utilization of the training. However, the bill does not mandate that school districts utilize this training material nor does it provide any restrictions on the qualifications for the individuals which may take the course; therefore complete cost estimates associated with the online course are indeterminate at this time.