

HB 2261 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

Action Date: 04/03/17

Action: Do pass. Refer to Ways and Means.

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:

Expands allowed responsibilities of Youth Development Council to include coordination of statewide services to youth identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Children who are assaulted at school for being gay or lesbian may result in truancy, high levels of depression, low levels of self-esteem and low academic success
- Coordination of statewide services (how to advocate and resources required) for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning population and how to fight barriers
- Resources to be produced by Youth Development Council for the creation of statewide services

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning youth are at an increased risk of violence among peers, including behaviors such as bullying and harassment. The 2015 Oregon healthy teens survey found that, in thirty days, forty-four percent of lesbians and gays on average indicated being bullied.

House Bill 2261 expands the allowed responsibilities of the Youth Development Council (YDC) to coordinate statewide services to youth who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning. HB 2261 will allow the YDC to provide a statewide coordinated systems' response to address the needs of these youth.