79th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2017 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

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Measure Description:

Establishes Oregon Quality Education Model Modernization Task Force.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Education, School Districts

Analysis:

House Bill 2688 creates the 9-member Oregon Quality Education Model Modernization Task Force charge with evaluating the Quality Education Model developed by the Quality Education Commission. The bill directs the Department of Education to provide staff support for the task force. The bill contains an emergency clause and is effective on passage. The task force sunsets on December 31, 2018.

Oregon Department of Education (ODE)

The Oregon Department of Education could require additional staff resources if the work of the task force results in significant data collection and analysis. If the work can be absorbed by the current staff, ODE anticipates reprioritizing the duties and responsibilities of existing staff to support the task force, including attending task force meetings, collecting data, providing analysis, and preparing the report to the Legislative Assembly. Assuming that the task force will meet from September 2017 until December 2018, the agency estimates the staffing and related costs of supporting the task force could range from \$10,743 to \$78,884 depending on workload.

School Districts

The fiscal impact of this bill on school districts is indeterminate depending on the scope of work undertaken, as well as the number of meetings scheduled by the task force. The bill allows the task force to determine the number of meetings necessary to complete its charge. Task force membership must include one school district superintendent, one school district board member, and one public school teacher. Although the bill specifies that all task force members serve as volunteers and are not entitled to compensation and reimbursement, note that there could be a cost to allowing a school district superintendent and a teacher time away from work to attend task force meetings. For example, a school may need to hire a substitute to teacher to cover for the teacher's time away from class to attend task force meetings. In addition, district staff time may be needed to gather data and provide analysis to support the work of the task force. The fiscal impact of this work will depend on what kind of information and analysis the task force requests from school districts.