

## HB 2720 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On Education

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**Action Date:** 04/10/17

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

**Vote:** 8-1-0-0

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

**Nays:** 1 - Wilson

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to conduct a study on virtual public charter schools. Requires the study examine the state and federal resources available to virtual public charter schools, resources available to virtual public charter schools, differences in resources available to such schools, financial and working relationship between each virtual public charter school, types and regularity of reviews of each virtual public charter school and school sponsor, types and regularity of reviews of each virtual public charter school, and populations served by such schools. Requires ODE examine the demographics of the students in each school and the average number of credits students are deficient upon entrance. Requires ODE study the educational experience of the students prior to enrolling and reasons why families choose virtual public charter schools, orientations given to students before first day of school, differences between populations of students, and defining growth rate of students in school as success rates in addition to success rates, test scores or ranking systems. Requires ODE submit a report in determining what types of data should be collected regularly from virtual public charter schools and how to collect the data. Repeals study on January 2, 2019. Requires report on progress of study be submitted and presented to the interim committee on education no later than December 15, 2017. Requires report on results of study conducted by September 15, 2018. Appropriates \$100,000 from the General Fund to conduct study. Becomes effective on passage.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Charter school study offers the legislature an opportunity to learn more about online schools
- Online charter schools have between nine to 4,000 students
- Needs assessment in study of public charter school and subsequent impact

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Changes the study of requirements of the success rate of students in each virtual public charter school to study the growth of students to include graduation rates, test scores or ranking systems of the students. Requires the Oregon Department of Education submit report to the interim committees no later than December 15, 2017 and a secondary report on September 15, 2018.

#### BACKGROUND:

In 2016, an informal workgroup met four times with participants including a lawmaker and virtual charter school practitioners met to discuss virtual charter schools in Oregon. The workgroup discussed potentially writing legislation

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with the purpose of examining factors such as access to resources, relationships between host districts and virtual public schools, populations served by each school, identify promising practices in online learning and inventory of trends of online learning in the nation.

House Bill 2720-A requires the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to conduct a study on virtual public charter schools. It requires the study examine the state and federal resources available to virtual public charter schools, resources available to virtual public charter schools, differences in resources available to such schools and factors contributing to virtual public charter schools.