

**HB 2247 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**House Committee On Education**

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**Prepared By:** Alethia Miller, LPRO Analyst

**Sub-Referral To:** Joint Committee On Student Success

**Meeting Dates:** 2/4

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Directs Early Learning Division (ELD) to develop, implement, and administer Oregon Imagination Library Project to improve third-grade reading proficiency and high school graduation rates by providing free books. Allows children to enroll at age four. Allows ELD to enter into contract with national book giving foundation, school districts, and non-profits. Allows contracted entity to match amount of at least 50 percent of the funds required to carry out project. Allows ELD to implement rules to carry out project, and establish advisory committee to develop, implement, and administer project. Establishes Oregon Imagination Library Account in ELD fund. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

**REVENUE:** May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

**FISCAL:** May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Dolly Parton started the Imagination Library book program in 1995. It allows local affiliates to raise money to provide books mailed directly to each child from birth to age five. The books are provided by a 50/50 matching fund through local contributions and the Dolly Parton Foundation. In Oregon, 42 Imagination Library affiliates exist, and these are located in 28 counties and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.