SB 690 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Prepared By: Tamara Dykeman, LPRO Analyst
Meeting Dates: 3/20, 3/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Removes sunset on Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children. Establishes that the Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction and members of the State Board of Education as the membership of state council. Requires council to meet at least once per year. Eliminates requirement to meet once every three months. Directs Oregon Department of Education to provide administrative support for council. Removes Oregon Military Department from administrative function. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Mobility of children from military families
- Need to remove sunset
- Fiscal cost of membership
- State Board of Education as members of the council
- ODE administration functions

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2014, the Oregon legislature adopted the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children (compact). The purpose of the compact is to reduce barriers and provide consistency for children of military personnel as they transfer to new public schools. The compact addresses enrollment, placement, attendance, eligibility and graduation issues. It applies to children of active duty and recently retired, medically discharged, or deceased military personnel. The Oregon Department of Education reports that each school district has its policies for enrolling transfer students. For military children, the variability in transfer rules can make transitions more difficult. In Oregon, the compact provides a uniform educational structure for approximately 1,700 Oregon students from military families, for a costs of $2,300 per year for compact membership. Senate Bill 690A permits Oregon to continue as a member of the interstate compact and updates council functions to reflect current practices.

PRELIMINARY