HB 2441 -1, -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Student Success

Meeting Dates: 3/11, 4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires each district provide a coordinated comprehensive school counseling program ('program') to support the academic, career, personal and social development of each student. Establishes positions who can implement program as person licensed by Teacher Standards Practices Commission (TSPC) as counselor, school social worker, or person has appropriate training to provide school counseling services. Directs Board to adopt by rule standards for coordinated comprehensive school counseling programs. Requires the Board collaborate with TSPC to ensure standards are inclusive while maintain program quality, describe extent by which school social worker or licensee issued by TSPC may implement program based on training and experience, provide flexibility in recognition of resources, and annually review standards to ensure adjustments are made to increase inclusively. Requires TSPC coordinate with education preparation providers to modify educator preparation programs to increase inclusivity of qualified persons to implement the program.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Work provided by work group during interim
- Flexibility provided for rural school districts
- Concerns expressed with school social workers implementing comprehensive school counseling framework

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

- -1 Replaces contents of measure. Requires each district provide a coordinated comprehensive school counseling program ('program') to support the academic, career, personal and social development of each student. Establishes positions who can implement program as person licensed by Teacher Standards Practices Commission (TSPC) as counselor, school social worker, or person licensed to implement the program. Allows State Board of Education (Board) to adopt rules for comprehensive school counseling program. Directs Board to adopt by rule standards for coordinated comprehensive school counseling programs. Requires the Board collaborate with TSPC to ensure standards are inclusive while maintain program quality, provide flexibility in recognition of resources, and annually review standards to ensure adjustments are made to increase inclusively. Requires TSPC coordinate with education preparation providers, and other providers relevant to the program for increasing the inclusivity of qualified persons to implement the program.
- -2 Replaces contents of measure. Requires each school district provide a comprehensive school counseling program to support academic, career, personal, and social development of students. Requires program is implemented by person licensed by Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) as school counselor unless person licensed by TSPC is school social worker, or other position competent to implement program, and specifies implementation can only be for grade eight or below, or school district being unable to employ school counselor. Requires State Board of Education (SBE) adopt by rule standards for coordinated comprehensive school counseling program, and specifies requirement for SBE. Specifies ways TSPC can ensure inclusivity of qualified persons implementing coordinated comprehensive school counseling program.

BACKGROUND:

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Oregon Administrative Rule 581-022-2060 indicates that districts/schools must provide a Comprehensive School Counseling program. There is no specific language about who delivers this program. The Comprehensive School Counseling program is outlined in Oregon Department of Education's Framework for Comprehensive School Counseling Programs. The rule indicates that schools identify licensed staff responsible for planning, designing, and delivering the comprehensive program. Districts have used both school counselors and school social workers to provide a Comprehensive School Counseling program.