HB 2022 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 4/15

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Renames Oregon Virtual School District (ORVSD) to Oregon Digital Learning Academy (Academy). Expands scope of the program to include professional development related to online learning for public school teachers. Requires the Academy to provide professional development to support school districts that provide online learning, as specified. Permits Superintendent of Public Instruction to contract with a public or private entity to offer professional development.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2005, the Legislative Assembly passed Senate Bill 1071 creating the ORVSD within the Oregon Department of Education (ODE). The purpose of ORVSD is to provide online courses to K-12 public school students. The online courses must meet state standards and be taught a licensed or registered teacher. ORVSD offers approximately 50 online courses, including higher-level math, world languages, honors and Advanced Placement (AP) classes, career and technical education (CTE), and other speciality courses. School districts may, but are not required to, offer these courses to their students. The ORVSD is funded through a \$1.6 million per biennium transfer or "carve out" from the State School Fund.

ODE reports that the name "Oregon Virtual School District" has caused confusion because the program is not a school district and many confuse ORVSD with the Oregon Virtual School, an online charter school. House Bill 2022 A changes the name of ORVSD to the Oregon Digital Learning Academy. In addition, it expands the purpose of the program to include professional development related to online education for teachers and school districts.