SB 719 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Student Success

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to develop and provide a system of supports and technical assistance for school districts related to abbreviated school day programs for students with individualized education programs. Establishes system requirements. Directs ODE to provide specialists to support districts, as specified. Directs ODE to establish an advisory committee. Establishes committee requirements. Requires ODE to report to interim education committees of the Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2020. Appropriates \$1.2 million from the General Fund for the purposes of the act. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2019.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Impact on learning outcomes from limiting instructional time
- Need to implement best practices for abbreviated school days
- Ongoing stakeholder meetings on abbreviated school days
- The 2017 legislation on abbreviated school days
- Fiscal impact of implementing provisions
- Support at the state level for special education, especially for small and rural districts
- Use of the dyslexia legislation as a model

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In the 2017-2018 school year, Oregon school districts provided 78,867 students, or 13.6 percent of the total student population, with special education services through an individualized education program (IEP). Oregon statute defines an abbreviated school day as any school day during which a student receives instruction or educational services for fewer hours than other students who are in the same grade within the same school. It defines an abbreviated school day program as an educational program that restricts a student's access to instructional hours or educational services and that results in a student having an abbreviated school day for more than ten school days per year. Under Oregon law, school districts must meet specific requirements prior to placing a student in an abbreviated school day program. On January 22, 2019, a lawsuit was filed against the State of Oregon related to children with disabilities and their opportunity to attend a full day of school in Oregon. Senate Bill 719 A requires ODE to establish an advisory committee and to provide assistance to school districts related to abbreviated school day programs.