

HB 2457 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 4/15, 5/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) to evaluate educator licensing to improve alignment between Oregon's and Idaho's requirements to make educator positions in the Eastern Oregon Border Economic Development Region more competitive with positions in Idaho. Requires TSPC and the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to evaluate career advancement and mentorship of new teachers in the border region. Provides that the purpose of the evaluations is to increase the number of teachers for high school math, high school science, and career and technical education (CTE) courses in the border region. Requires the Office of Child Care to evaluate if a streamlined process can increase the availability of in-home and family-provided child care in the border region. Requires TSPC, ODE, and the Office of Child Care to report evaluation results to the Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2024. Sunsets on December 31, 2024. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Idaho's increasing population along Oregon border
- Economic status of Malheur County
- Oregon Border Economic Development Region
- Supply of teachers in border region
- Availability of licensed child care in border region
- Teacher retention
- Teacher salaries in Oregon and Idaho
- Career and technical education
- Aligning Oregon teaching licensure with Idaho requirements
- Maintaining high standards
- Labor and economic factors

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon law defines the Eastern Oregon Border Economic Development Region as the part of the state that is within 20 miles of the Oregon border with the State of Idaho, including but limited to, the cities of Ontario, Vale, and Nyssa; includes Willow Creek and Brogan; is an area that is across the Oregon border from Weiser, Idaho; and is an area southwest of Vale for a distance of 10 miles. The purpose of the Eastern Oregon Border Economic Development Region is to identify policies and strategies that will promote workforce and economic growth; facilitate development or prevent decline of regionally significant industrial sites; create or maintain jobs; and improve access to CTE, workforce training programs, and higher education to enhance local workforce skills. It is governed by an seven voting-member board, appointed by the Governor. One of the priorities of the Eastern Oregon Border Economic Development Board is to identify areas where differences in professional licensing and certification standards between Oregon and Idaho place the Oregon border region at a disadvantage. House Bill 2457 A requires TSPC, ODE, and the Office of Child Care to evaluate state requirements to facilitate licensure

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reciprocity, improve teacher retention rates, and increase the availability of childcare in the Eastern Oregon Border Economic Development Region.

PRELIMINARY