SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

[Directs Department of Education to conduct study to determine adequacy of public education in state.] Establishes Task Force on Educational Accountability and Transparency. Prescribes membership and duties of task force.

Directs task force to submit report to interim committee of Legislative Assembly related to education no later than December 1, 2020.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to education; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Educational Accountability and Transparency is established.

(2) The task force consists of 15 members appointed as follows:

(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint one member from the majority party of the Senate and one member from the minority party of the Senate.

(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member from the majority party of the House of Representatives and one member from the minority party of the House of Representatives.

(c) The Governor shall appoint 11 members as follows:

(A) The Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction, or a designee of the deputy superintendent;

(B) One member who is a member of the State Board of Education;

(C) One member who is an expert on developing and implementing policies and practices to improve equity in education;

(D) One member who represents the Department of Education and who is an expert in accountability measures;

(E) One member who is a member of a school district board;

(F) One member who is an administrator at a public school;

(G) One member who is a teacher at a public school;

(H) One member who is a parent of a child in a public school;

(I) One member who represents a nonprofit organization that is working on educational improvement in this state;

NOTE: Matter in boldfaced type in an amended section is new; matter in italic and bracketed is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in boldfaced type.

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(J) One member who is from the professional research community and who has relevant expertise; and
(K) One member who is from the business community.

(3) When selecting members of the task force under subsection (2)(c) of this section, the Governor shall take into consideration geographic and demographic diversity.

(4) The task force shall consult with small, medium and large school districts throughout this state to study methods that:
   (a) Align Oregon’s educational accountability measures into a coherent, cohesive system;
   (b) Streamline data collection, eliminate redundancy in data collection and improve data governance processes among school districts and the Department of Education to ease school districts’ reporting burden and ease student transfers;
   (c) Provide the department with information the department needs to ensure accountability for alternative schools; and
   (d) Offer new accountability tool options at the local level.

(5) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.

(6) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting members of the task force.

(7) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

(8) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appointment to become immediately effective.

(9) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson or of a majority of the voting members of the task force.

(10) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

(11) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to education no later than December 1, 2020.

(12) The Legislative Policy and Research Office shall provide staff support to the task force.

(13) Members of the Legislative Assembly appointed to the task force are nonvoting members of the task force and may act in an advisory capacity only.

(14) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers on the task force.

(15) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist the task force in the performance of the duties of the task force and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task force consider necessary to perform their duties.

SECTION 2. If House Bill 3427 becomes law, section 1 of this 2019 Act is amended to read:

Sec. 1. (1) The Task Force on Educational Accountability and Transparency is established.
(2) The task force consists of 15 members appointed as follows:
   (a) The President of the Senate shall appoint one member from the majority party of the Senate and one member from the minority party of the Senate.
   (b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member from the majority party of the House of Representatives and one member from the minority party of the House of Assembly related to education no later than December 1, 2020.

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(16) The Department of Education may use moneys from the Statewide Education Initiatives Account for the task force as authorized under section 25 (1)(i), chapter __, Oregon Laws 2019 (Enrolled House Bill 3427). Moneys used by the department under this subsection may be used only to enter into a contract with a national organization that:

(a) Has experience in assisting states to improve their accountability systems; and

(b) Will advise and assist the task force in its work.

SECTION 3. Section 1 of this 2019 Act is repealed on December 31, 2020.

SECTION 4. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect on its passage.