

House Bill 2248

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Early Childhood and Family Supports)

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 **as introduced**.

Establishes grant program for purpose of improving kindergarten student-to-teacher ratios in schools that are considered high poverty.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2019.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to kindergarten student-to-teacher ratios; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2019 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 327.**

5 **SECTION 2. (1) In addition to those moneys distributed through the State School Fund,**
6 **the Department of Education shall award grants to enable school districts to provide at least**
7 **one teacher for every 15 kindergarten students in schools that meet the requirements pre-**
8 **scribed by subsection (2) of this section.**

9 (2) A grant awarded under this section may be used to provide at least one teacher for
10 every 15 kindergarten students in a school if the school has:

11 (a) A full-day kindergarten program;

12 (b) Ninety percent or more of the students at the site eligible for free or reduced price
13 lunches under the United States Department of Agriculture's current Income Eligibility
14 Guidelines; and

15 (c) The classroom capacity to comply with the requirements of the grant.

16 (3)(a) A school district that includes an elementary school that meets the requirements
17 prescribed by subsection (2) of this section may apply to the Department of Education for a
18 grant under this section. The school district may apply for a grant for one or more schools
19 in the school district.

20 (b) The department shall review and approve applications based on criteria established
21 by the State Board of Education.

22 (4) A school district shall deposit grant amounts received under this section in a separate
23 account and shall apply the amounts in that account to provide at least one teacher for every
24 15 kindergarten students in a school for which the school district applied for the grant.

25 (5) The State Board of Education may adopt any rules necessary for the administration
26 of this section.

27 **SECTION 3. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**
28 **ated to the Department of Education, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, out of the**
29 **General Fund, the amount of \$_____, which shall be expended for the grant program es-**
30 **tablished under section 2 of this 2019 Act.**

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

1 **SECTION 4. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
2 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect**
3 **July 1, 2019.**

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