SB 594 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Prepared By: Lisa Gezelter, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/7, 4/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prohibits school districts from using monitoring software related to a student's computer usage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 Replaces the measure. Requires Legislative Policy and Research Office to conduct study of monitoring software and its usage. Establishes parameters of study. Requires report by September 1, 2022. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

REVENUE: No revenue impact.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

BACKGROUND:

At the end of the 2019-2020 school year and for most of the 2020-2021 school year, the majority of Oregon's K-12 students have been engaged in comprehensive distance learning, in which teachers have provided instruction remotely through online conferencing platforms such as Zoom. Districts have distributed computers and internet hotspots to students to enable them to engage in comprehensive distance learning, although many families have provided their own devices. Senate Bill 594 prevents a school district from monitoring a student's computer usage via specified software.