SB 226 -4 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 4/7, 4/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Department of Education to study education system. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-4 Replaces the measure. Directs Department of Education (ODE) to convene advisory group to evaluate the appropriateness of, and compliance with, the media program standards developed by the State Board of Education. Requires ODE to appoint members to advisory group in consultation with organizations that represent public school educators and that promote school libraries. Requires ODE to submit report to interim legislative committee by December 30, 2021. Sunsets December 31, 2021. Requires State Board of Education to consult with State Library when reviewing and revising standards involving media programs and information literacy. Encourages school districts and public charter schools to offer courses in information literacy. Establishes requirement that Oregon Department of Education establish eligibility for specific diploma requirements to recognize high school graduates who have attained a high level of proficiency in more than one language. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

REVENUE: No revenue impact

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

BACKGROUND:

The State Board of Education adopted its current media program standards in 2015. The media program standards provide direction to school libraries to offer multimedia instructional services to students, including information literacy, reading engagement, social responsibility, and technology integration. Oregon's Seal of Biliteracy is an existing program established in administrative rule that recognizes students who have achieved a high level of proficiency in multiple languages.

Senate Bill 226 directs the Department of Education to convene an advisory group to evaluate the appropriateness of, and compliance with, the media program standards developed by the State Board of Education, and requires the State Board of Education to consult with the State Library when conducting its periodic review and revision of its media program standards. The measure also directs the Oregon Department of Education to recognize high school graduates proficient in multiple languages, establishing in statute a program that currently exists only in administrative rule.