

Legislative Fiscal Office

Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE, H-178
Salem, OR 97301
503-986-1828



Joint Committee on Ways and Means

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To: Education Subcommittee

From: Doug Wilson, Legislative Fiscal Office

Date: June 17, 2021

Subject: HB 2166 – Relating to Education Equity
Work Session Recommendations

This bill establishes the Early Childhood Suspension and Expulsion Prevention Program, establishes the statewide social emotional learning framework, enacts provisions to diversify Oregon's educator workforce, and establishes a grant program for charter schools with large populations of historically underserved students and students with disabilities.

- Establishes Early Childhood Suspension and Expulsion Prevention Program to be administered by Early Learning Division, sets program requirements and authorizes the Early Learning Council to adopt rules necessary to administer program. Providers are required to participate in the program for certification of child care facilities or registration of child care homes.
- Requires the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to convene an advisory group by September 1, 2021 to propose social emotional learning standards and a statewide social emotional framework for adoption by the State Board of Education based on requirements for standards and framework in the bill. The agency must report by September 15, 2022, adopt the standards and framework by September 15, 2023, and school districts must implement the standards by July 1, 2024.
- Requires the State Board of Education to adopt rules relating to educator equity and allows the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) to approve school districts, education service districts, or other entities as Educator Preparation Providers (EPPs). EPPs are authorized to operate programs provisionally without accreditation by a national organization for up to four years under certain circumstances. TSPC must establish standards for nontraditional pathways to licensure and prescribe requirements for those standards. Accredited educator preparation programs may offer nontraditional pathways to licensure. The sunset date of the Teacher Education Program Accreditation Account is extended to July 1, 2025. Scholarship amounts for the Oregon Scholars program for diverse teacher candidates are increased from \$5,000 annually to \$10,000 annually.

- Modifies parties to and parameters of intergovernmental agreement governing the Educator Advancement Council (EAC). The EAC membership and status is modified.
- Beginning July 1, 2022, the bill establishes a grant program for eligible public charter schools to be funded out of Statewide Education Initiatives Account. To be eligible, criteria is established based on percentage of students from racial or ethnic groups that have historically experienced academic disparities and students with disabilities. The bill includes the calculation of the distribution formula and grant amounts. Grantees must meet certain growth targets. Grants are prohibited from supplanting any funding that districts are contractually obligated to pay to eligible charter schools.

The amendment authorizes the Early Learning Division and TSPC to take actions to ensure that the program is ready to implement on the operative date. Includes reporting requirements and timelines and requires ELD to conduct a study on the use of suspension and expulsion in early learning programs and identify ways to prevent. Also requires TSPC, along with EAC and ODE, to prepare a report to the legislature. Finally, there are appropriation or expenditure limitations in the amendment for the programs above:

- TSPC is appropriated \$527,792 General Fund for two positions (2.00 FTE) to begin to develop educator non-traditional pathways. TSPC and the EAC may return to seek further funding during the February Session either through EAC resources or General Fund.
- The Early Learning Division is appropriated \$5.8 million General Fund for the Early Childhood Suspension and Expulsion Prevention Program. All but \$636,609 of the appropriation is to be uncommitted until the Division reports back before or during the February session on the planning, development and early implementation of the program. This amount will provide resources for three positions (2.25 FTE).
- \$2.0 million of Other Funds expenditure limitation is provided for spending resources from Strategic Education Initiative Account of the Fund for Student Success for the Public Charter School Equity grants.

Recommended Changes

LFO recommends adoption of the -12 amendment.

Final Subcommittee Action

LFO recommends that HB 2166, as amended by the -12 amendment, to be moved to the Ways and Means Full Committee.

Carriers

Full Committee: _____

House Floor: _____

Senate Floor: _____