

HB 2630 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Special Committee On Wildfire Recovery

Action Date: 03/29/21

Action: Do pass and be referred to Revenue by prior reference

Vote: 10-0-0-0

Yeas: 10 - Cate, Clem, Evans, Gomberg, Grayber, Lewis, Marsh, Meek, Morgan, Post

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: Revenue impact issued

Prepared By: Laura Kentnesse, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/22, 3/29

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Provides that, for five school years, calculations of weighted average daily membership made for the purpose of distribution of State School Fund and Fund for Student Success moneys to school districts, may not be decreased for school districts impacted by wildfires in 2020. Requires the State Board of Education to adopt rules, and requires the Department of Education to determine if an average daily membership decrease was the result of 2020 wildfires based on those rules. Applies provisions starting with 2020-2021 distributions and sunsets provisions on July 1, 2025. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- School district funding structure
- Holding districts harmless for population losses due to wildfire
- Importance and impact of school district stability in fire-affected communities
- Relationship between school districts and economic vitality
- Anticipated wildfire recovery timelines
- Source of funding for implementation

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon's K-12 school finance system combines state, local, and federal revenue to support 197 school districts and 19 education service districts (ESDs). Most state revenue is distributed to school districts and ESDs by a statutorily defined school distribution formula that is designed to achieve equity goals.

Weighted student counts are one component of that formula. They are the sum of the General Education Average Daily Membership (ADM) count - the aggregate days membership of a school during a certain period divided by the number of days the school was actually in session during the same period - plus additional student weights based on student and district characteristics. Those combined metrics produce the Weighted Average Daily Membership, or ADMw.

House Bill 2630 would provide that, for five school years, calculations of weighted average daily membership made for the purpose of distribution of state moneys to school districts would not be decreased for school districts impacted by wildfires in 2020.