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82nd LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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Date: December 6, 2024

To: Members of the Senate Education Committee

From: Lisa Gezelter, Ellen O'Brien, and Taylor Bickel, Committee Analysts

Re: Committee drafts for introduction on December 11, 2024

LC 776 moves the staffing responsibility for the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) into the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) while maintaining TSPC as an independent commission.

LC 777 is a placeholder bill relating to fiscal impact statements from school districts.

LC 778 is a placeholder bill relating to K-12 education.

LC 779 is a placeholder bill relating to K-12 education.

LC 780 is a placeholder bill relating to K-12 education.

LC 781 is a placeholder bill relating to K-12 education.

LC 782 is a placeholder bill relating to K-12 education.

LC 793 is a placeholder bill relating to higher education.

LC 794 is a placeholder bill relating to higher education.

LC 795 is a placeholder bill relating to higher education.

LC 796 is a placeholder bill relating to health care benefits for part-time faculty members at postsecondary institutions of education.

LC 797 allows either party in a labor dispute involving public education employers to request a fact-finder.

LC 798 is a placeholder bill relating to education finance.

LC 941 directs the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to develop and implement a standardized method for electronic student data.

LC 943 directs the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to initiate planning for statewide collective bargaining of salary and benefits for Oregon licensed educators. This legislative concept requires DAS to submit an initial plan to the Legislature by December 1, 2026, and updates on December 1, 2027, and December 1, 2028, and requires initial statewide bargaining to take place prior to the biennium that begins on July 1, 2029.

LC 1549 requires the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) and the Educator Advancement Council (EAC) to jointly draft a strategic plan for the state's alternative pathways to educator licensure. This legislative concept requires TSPC and EAC to complete and submit the plan to the interim committees of Legislative Assembly by July 1, 2026, and to update the plan every biennium.

LC 1574 directs the State Board of Education to review rules related to withdrawing students from a school district's active roll due to absences and requires the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to collect and report data on the number of students who are dis-enrolled after 10-consecutive absences.

LC 1576 is a placeholder bill relating to the State School Fund current service level.

LC 1581 raises the cap on the percentage of children with disabilities for which school districts can claim a weight in the state school fund equalization formula to 16% by increasing 1% each biennium for the next three biennia. This legislative concept requires Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to set workload metrics and caps for special education professionals, and requires districts to adhere to these caps to receive funding for any students above the current 13% cap.

LC 2283 allows substitute teachers to be eligible for enrollment in a benefits plan offered by the Oregon Educators Benefit Board if the substitute teacher works for half-time or more during the previous academic year. This legislative concept creates a Substitute Teacher Insurance Fund.

LC 2294 establishes an Office of Substitute Teachers in the Oregon Department of Education to provide resources on best practices and respond to questions and concerns regarding the employment of substitute teachers in Oregon school districts.

LC 2297 requires ODE to contract with a training provider with experience developing online training modules for educators to develop and offer standardized training for substitute teachers with different levels of experience.

LC 2301 directs the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) to develop a method in rule by which a licensee with a restricted substitute license could earn a regular substitute license.

LC 2328 does the following:

1. Establishes an Office of Substitute Teachers in the Oregon Department of Education (ODE).
2. Requires ODE to contract with a training provider with experience developing online training modules for educators to develop and offer standardized training for substitute teachers with different levels of experience.
3. Directs the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) to develop a method in rule by which a licensee with a restricted substitute license could earn a regular substitute license.
4. Allows substitute to teachers to be eligible for enrollment in a benefits plan offered by the Oregon Educators Benefit Board if the substitute teacher works for half-time or more during the previous academic year. Creates a Substitute Teacher Insurance Fund.

LC 2696 clarifies requirements for school districts and Education Service Districts (ESDs) when contracting with a third-party administrator (TPA) for substitute teacher services by the following:

1. Clarifies that school districts or ESDs are required to complete a cost-saving analysis when a contract is renewed or extended with a TPA or when seeking a new TPA.
2. Specifies that the school district or ESD board must be required to show any actual or realized cost-savings based on the current contract and usage of a TPA.
3. Establishes requirements for public disclosure of the cost-saving analysis.
4. Requires the contracting school district board or ESD board to submit a final contract and cost-saving analysis to the Oregon Department of Education (ODE).
5. Requires ODE to provide an annual report to Legislative Administration and the Senate and House Committees on Education detailing compliance with these requirements.