

SB 1002 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 3/23, 4/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Repeals prohibition on use of State School Fund facility grant for capital construction costs and restrictions on facility grants in excess of \$3 million per biennium. Permits Oregon Department of Education to expend up to \$3 million per biennium to respond to threat or hazard affecting school district and to improve safety and security of students and staff. Repeals facility grant from among State School Fund distributions. Makes conforming amendments. Declares emergency, takes effect July 1, 2023.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- End of federal funding for emergency preparedness

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

This bill is at the request of the Oregon Department of Education (ODE). According to ODE, funding from facility grants is no longer necessary due to legal changes that allow school districts to include the non-intrinsic costs currently funded by the facility grant in their bond requests. Those changes took place through the passage of [House Joint Resolution 13 \(2009\)](#) and Measure 68, which was adopted by popular vote on May 18, 2010. The removal of certain constitutional limitations on local taxing districts in order to finance capital costs is codified in the [Oregon Constitution Art. XI § 11L](#) and applies to any bond debt incurred on or after January 1, 2011.

The State School Fund consists of moneys appropriated by the Legislative Assembly and intended for distribution to school districts. Each school district receives a State School Fund grant, calculated as a general purpose grant, a facility grant, a transportation grant, and a high cost disabilities grant minus local revenue. In addition, ORS 327.008 directs the ODE to transfer State School Fund moneys to certain accounts each biennium, including the Educator Advancement Fund, Statewide English Language Learner Program Account, and the Healthy School Facilities Fund, and permits the department to expend limited amounts from the State School Fund for the administration of certain programs, such as talented and gifted education and a program to increase the number of speech-language pathologists (SLPs) and SLP assistants.

Senate Bill 1002 eliminates the facility grant made to schools from the State School Fund and repurposes State School Fund dollars to support school emergency preparedness.