House Bill 2239

Sponsored by Representative NERON (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Requires school districts to encourage community engagement in budget process and to ensure that training is received on developing and understanding school district budget.

Directs Department of Education to develop best practices for developing school district budgets and to make best practices available to school districts.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to district education budgets; amending ORS 328.542.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. ORS 328.542 is amended to read:

328.542. (1) Subject to the Local Budget Law (ORS 294.305 to 294.565) and to sections 11 and 11b, Article XI, Oregon Constitution, each school district board shall prepare annually or biennially the budget of the school district and shall certify ad valorem property taxes to the assessor as provided by law.

(2) In addition to the requirements prescribed by ORS 294.305 to 294.565, a school district must:

   (a) Include at least one member of the educational equity advisory committee of the school district on the budget committee.

   (b) Encourage community engagement in the budget process, including:

      (A) Providing opportunity for the community of the school district to give input into the preparation of the budget and taking into consideration that input when preparing the budget. The school district must seek the input of:

         (i) School employees;

         (ii) Students from student groups for which an additional amount is computed under ORS 327.013 (1)(c); and

         (iii) Parents of students described in sub-subparagraph (ii) of this subparagraph.

      (B) Requiring approval of the budget by the school district board at an open meeting, following:

         (i) Provision of the proposed budget at the main office of the school district and on the school district's website;

         (ii) Oral presentation of the proposed budget by an administrator of the school district to the school district board; and

         (iii) Opportunity for the public to comment on the proposed budget at an open meeting.

      (C) Ensuring that the approved budget identifies the intended uses for the additional amounts received by the school district as provided by ORS 327.013 (1)(c). The approved budget also may identify the intended uses for moneys received as average daily membership.

NOTE: Matter in boldfaced type in an amended section is new; matter [italic and bracketed] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in boldfaced type.
under ORS 327.013, minus any additional amounts received as provided by ORS 327.013 (1)(c).

(D) Making the approved budget available at the main office of the school district and
on the school district's website.

(3) Each school district board shall ensure that:

(a) Members of the budget committee receive training on how to develop a school district
budget; and

(b) Members of the school district board receive training on how to understand a school
district budget.

(4) For the purpose of assisting school district boards in the development of budgets for
school districts, the Department of Education shall develop best practices related to budget
development and make that information available to school district boards.