

Legislative Fiscal Office

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Joint Committee on Ways and Means

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To: Capital Construction Subcommittee

From: Julie Neburka, Legislative Fiscal Office

Date: March 6, 2024

Subject: SB 1552 – Relating to education
Work Session Recommendations

SB 1552 is an omnibus measure that makes many changes to statutory provisions for kindergarten through grade twelve education and institutions of higher education. In brief, the measure makes provisions for:

- The process for establishing and the establishment of a youth advisory group to support youth engagement in policy making in Oregon
- Requiring the Department of Education to plan for the collection of course completion and grade data for public school students in grades six through twelve
- Requiring the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to establish a direct admissions program for community colleges and public universities in Oregon
- Directing the Legislative Policy and Research Office to conduct a study of the Quality Education Model and the state's system of financing kindergarten through grade twelve public education
- Requiring HECC to approve changes to Oregon Opportunity Grant awards through a public rulemaking process
- Making changes to the method of calculating a funding level to support the Juvenile Detention Education Program and the Youth Corrections Education Program, and establishing a Juvenile Justice Education Fund
- Extending HECC's authority to contract out the administration of Oregon's Open Educational Resources (OER) program to all statutes relevant to the program.
- Requiring certain notifications if schools have short-acting opioid antagonists on site
- Changing the definition of "educator" as it applies to the work of the Educator Advancement Council
- Requiring HECC to convene a workgroup to study corequisite student support models
- Declaring that all applied baccalaureate programs and bachelor of science in nursing programs are eligible for funding from the Community College Support Fund
- Clarifying the eligibility criteria for health care benefits at public institutions of higher education

- Requiring HECC to study the forestry workforce
- Exempting subcommittees of the Transfer Council from public meeting requirements
- Permitting individuals to petition licensing boards to learn whether a criminal conviction will prevent them from receiving an occupational or professional license prior to entering a training or apprenticeship program
- Repealing a reference to charter schools in the existing law about recovery schools and lists the laws recovery schools must follow
- Modifying the definition of "classified employee" in just cause statutes
- Modifying the pay rates for substitute teachers to revert to pay rates that were in place prior to passage of SB 283 in 2023
- Repealing statutory references that were rendered obsolete by the passage of the Early Literacy Success Initiative (House Bill 3198) in 2023.

The measure contains a \$300,000 General Fund appropriation to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to conduct a study of the forestry workforce.

Recommended Changes

LFO recommends adoption of the –A3 amendment, which makes the following changes to the A-engrossed version of the measure:

- Modifies certain provisions and operative dates relating to the youth advisory group
- Modifies certain provisions and operative dates for applied baccalaureate programs
- Exempts recovery schools from minimum enrollment requirements adds requirement for recovery schools' use of the uniform budget and accounting system
- Changes the reporting date for a report on the forestry workforce
- Modifies certain provisions and operative dates relating to occupational licensing board determinations
- Modifies the operative date for pay rates paid to substitute teachers

MOTION: I move adoption of the –A3 amendment to SB 1552. (VOTE)

LFO additionally recommends adoption of the –4 amendment, which appropriates a total of \$864,558 General Fund to the following agencies for the following purposes:

- \$198,739 General Fund to the Department of Education, to establish two positions (0.69 FTE) to implement and staff the youth advisory group
- \$143,137 General Fund to the Oregon Health Authority to establish one position (0.63 FTE) to begin implementation of pre-application determinations for professional licensure
- \$158,865 General Fund to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, to establish one position, (0.50 FTE) to address the establishment of a direct admission program. This amount is in addition to the \$300,000 that is appropriated to HECC for contract services to conduct a forestry workforce study
- \$363,817 to the Legislative Policy and Research Office for one limited-duration position (0.38 FTE) to oversee a contract with a research firm to study the Quality Education Model and Oregon's system of financing K-12 education, and to provide research and staff support on these topics.

With the –4 amendment, the total cost of SB 1552 is \$1,164,558 General Fund.

MOTION: I move adoption of the –4 amendment to SB 1552. (VOTE)

Final Subcommittee Action

LFO recommends that SB 1552, as amended by the –A3 and –A4 amendments, be moved to the Ways and Means Full Committee.

MOTION: I move SB 1552, as amended, to the Full Committee with a do pass recommendation. (VOTE)

Carriers

Full Committee: _____

House Floor: _____

Senate Floor: _____