

House Bill 3519

Sponsored by Representative BOWMAN, Senator GELSER BLOUIN, Representative MCINTIRE; Senator WEBER

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**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: Creates a program to provide for a cultural exchange for students. (Flesch Readability Score: 64.9).

Directs the Department of Education to provide oversight of a program that coordinates an in-state and a national cultural exchange for students of this state. Prescribes the requirements of the program. Directs the department to transfer moneys from the Statewide Education Initiatives Account for the program.

Declares an emergency, effective July 1, 2025.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to a cultural exchange program; creating new provisions; amending ORS 327.254; and de-
3 claring an emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Education shall provide oversight of a program that,**
6 **under a contract between the department and a public or private entity, coordinates an in-**
7 **state and a national cultural exchange for students of this state.**

8 **(2) The program provided under a contract authorized by subsection (1) of this section**
9 **shall enable:**

10 **(a) Students in grade 12 to stay with a host family in another location of this state for**
11 **a week of experiences that allow students to explore similarities and differences in the poli-**
12 **tical, socioeconomic and cultural features of their place of residence and the location of the**
13 **exchange; and**

14 **(b) Graduates of a high school in this state who participated in an experience described**
15 **in paragraph (a) of this subsection to stay in another state for a week of experiences that**
16 **allow students to explore similarities and differences in the political, socioeconomic and cul-**
17 **tural features of their place of residence and the location of the exchange.**

18 **(3) The department shall assist the entity under contract with the department to ensure**
19 **that, to the greatest extent practicable, students representing a diversity of schools from a**
20 **diversity of school districts participate in the program.**

21 **(4) The entity under contract with the department, in a manner consistent with the**
22 **contract, may award grants to encourage students to participate in the program and to as-**
23 **sist students who are participating in the program.**

24 **SECTION 2. (1) The Department of Education in collaboration with the entity under**
25 **contract as provided by section 1 of this 2025 Act shall ensure that, by July 1, 2028, and to**
26 **the greatest extent practicable, at least 1,000 students and 60 schools from 60 school districts**
27 **participate in the program described in section 1 of this 2025 Act.**

28 **(2) No later than September 15, 2028, the department shall submit a report to the interim**

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.

1 committees of the Legislative Assembly related to education on the number of students,
 2 school districts and schools that participated in the program described in section 1 of this
 3 2025 Act. The report may recommend legislation related to the program.

4 **SECTION 3.** (1) The Cultural Exchange Program Fund is established in the State Treas-
 5 ury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned on the Cultural Exchange
 6 Program Fund shall be credited to the fund.

7 (2) Moneys in the Cultural Exchange Program Fund are continuously appropriated to the
 8 Department of Education for the purpose of providing funding for the program described in
 9 section 1 of this 2025 Act, including the awarding of grants as described in section 1 (4) of
 10 this 2025 Act.

11 (3) The department, on behalf of the State of Oregon, may solicit and accept gifts, grants
 12 and donations from public and private sources for the purpose of the program described in
 13 section 1 of this 2025 Act. Moneys received under this subsection shall be deposited into the
 14 Cultural Exchange Program Fund.

15 (4) The Cultural Exchange Program Fund shall consist of moneys transferred from the
 16 Statewide Education Initiatives Account, moneys appropriated or transferred to the fund by
 17 the Legislative Assembly, moneys deposited as provided by subsection (3) of this section and
 18 any other moneys deposited into the fund from any source.

19 **SECTION 4.** ORS 327.254, as amended by section 25, chapter 95, Oregon Laws 2024, is amended
 20 to read:

21 327.254. (1) The Department of Education shall use moneys in the Statewide Education Initi-
 22 atives Account to provide funding for statewide education initiatives, including:

23 (a) Funding the High School Graduation and College and Career Readiness Act at the levels
 24 prescribed by ORS 327.856;

25 (b) Expanding school breakfast and lunch programs;

26 (c) Operating youth reengagement programs or providing youth reengagement services;

27 (d) Establishing and maintaining the Statewide School Safety and Prevention System under ORS
 28 339.341;

29 (e) Developing and providing statewide equity initiatives, including any statewide education plan
 30 developed and implemented by the department;

31 (f) Providing summer learning programs at schools that are considered high poverty under Title
 32 I of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965;

33 (g) Funding early warning systems to assist students in graduating from high school, as de-
 34 scribed in ORS 327.367;

35 (h) Developing and implementing professional development programs and training programs, in-
 36 cluding programs that increase educator diversity and retain diverse educators;

37 (i) Planning for increased transparency and accountability in the public education system of this
 38 state;

39 (j) Providing additional funding to school districts participating in the intensive program under
 40 ORS 327.222;

41 (k) Providing technical assistance, including costs incurred for:

42 (A) The coaching program described in ORS 327.214; and

43 (B) The intensive program described in ORS 327.222, including costs for student success teams;

44 (L) Funding public charter schools, as described in ORS 327.362;

45 (m) Funding the Early Literacy Success School Grant program, as provided by ORS 327.833;

1 (n) Funding the Early Literacy Success Community Grant program, as established by ORS
2 327.843;

3 (o) Funding any additional amounts for approved recovery schools, as provided by rules of the
4 State Board of Education adopted under ORS 327.029;

5 (p) Funding education service districts, as described in subsection (2) of this section;

6 (q) Funding the Youth Corrections Education Program and the Juvenile Detention Education
7 Program through the Juvenile Justice Education Fund established under section 22, chapter 95,
8 Oregon Laws 2024, when necessary as provided by section 23, chapter 95, Oregon Laws 2024; [and]

9 **(r) Funding the in-state and national cultural exchange program described in section 1**
10 **of this 2025 Act through transfers to the Cultural Exchange Program Fund established by**
11 **section 3 of this 2025 Act; and**

12 [(r)] (s) Funding costs incurred by the department in implementing this section and ORS 327.175
13 to 327.235 and 327.274.

14 (2)(a) The amount of a distribution to an education service district under this section shall be
15 made as provided by paragraph (b) of this subsection after calculating the following for each edu-
16 cation service district:

17 (A) One percent of the total amount available for distribution to education service districts in
18 each biennium.

19 (B) The education service district's $ADMw \times$ (the total amount available for distribution to
20 education service districts in each biennium \div the total ADMw of all education service districts
21 that receive a distribution).

22 (b) The amount of the distribution to an education service district shall be the greater of the
23 amounts calculated under paragraph (a) of this subsection, except that, for distributions made as
24 provided by paragraph (a)(B) of this subsection, the total amount available for distribution to edu-
25 cation service districts shall be the amount remaining after any distributions required under para-
26 graph (a)(A) of this subsection have been made.

27 (c) For purposes of this subsection, ADMw equals the ADMw as calculated under ORS 327.013,
28 except that the additional amount allowed for students who are in poverty families, as determined
29 under ORS 327.013 (1)(c)(A)(v)(I), shall be 0.5.

30 (d) An education service district shall use moneys received under this section as provided by a
31 plan developed by the school districts located within the education service district. A school district
32 that declines to participate in the development of the plan or that has withdrawn from an education
33 service district as provided by ORS 334.015 is not entitled to any moneys distributed to the educa-
34 tion service district under this subsection.

35 (e) A plan developed under this subsection must:

36 (A) Align with and support the meeting of performance growth targets established for recipients
37 of moneys under ORS 327.195 that are located within the education service district;

38 (B) Include the provision, to recipients of moneys under ORS 327.195 that are located within the
39 education service district, of technical assistance in developing, implementing and reviewing a plan
40 for receiving a grant from the Student Investment Account;

41 (C) Provide for coordination with the department in administering and providing technical as-
42 sistance to recipients of moneys under ORS 327.195 that are located within the education service
43 district, including coordinating any coaching programs established under ORS 327.214; and

44 (D) Be adopted and amended as provided for local service plans under ORS 334.175 and approved
45 by the department.

1 (f) For the purposes of paragraph (e) of this subsection, recipients of moneys under ORS 327.195
2 that are located within the education service district include, as applicable:

3 (A) Common school districts and union high school districts;

4 (B) Any charter school that is an eligible applicant, as defined in ORS 327.185; and

5 (C) The Youth Corrections Education Program or the Juvenile Detention Education Program.

6 (g) Each education service district must submit an annual report to the department that:

7 (A) Describes how the education service district spent moneys received under this subsection;
8 and

9 (B) Includes an evaluation of the education service district's compliance with the plan from the
10 superintendent of each school district that participated in the development of the plan.

11 (3) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules necessary for the distribution of moneys un-
12 der this section.

13 **SECTION 5. For the 2025-2027 biennium, the Department of Education shall transfer the**
14 **amount of \$2,150,000 from the Statewide Education Initiatives Account to the Cultural Ex-**
15 **change Program Fund established under section 3 of this 2025 Act.**

16 **SECTION 6. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
17 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect**
18 **July 1, 2025.**