MEASURE: CARRIER: HB 2108 A Rep. Harker

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued	
Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	10 - 0 - 0
Yea	s: Dembrow, Harker, Huffman, Komp, Maurer, Roblan, Sprenger, Thatcher, VanOrman, Gelser
Nay	s: 0
Exc	: 0
Prepared By:	Kevin T. Christiansen, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/11, 4/27

REVENUE: No revenue impact

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Provides when career school is approved by Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC) to confer academic degree, and career school continues to offer courses not leading to a degree: 1) career school must continue to be licensed as career school; 2) students enrolled in career school program are eligible for moneys from Tuition Protection Fund; and 3) when course that does not lead to academic degree is approved by OSAC to lead to degree, regulatory authority for that course transfers to OSAC. Provides the following are not regulated by statutes applicable to career schools: 1) courses, instruction or training offered for limited number of hours; 2) schools Superintendent of Public Instruction (Superintendent) determines are adequately regulated by other means; 3) schools offering only review instruction to student preparing to take professional examinations; and 4) schools approved by OSAC to confer academic degrees. Provides that, in determining whether to issue license to career school, Superintendent may consider prior history of applicant in operating other career schools. Requires applicant for initial issuance of career school license or renewal to provide Superintendent fingerprints of faculty and agents of career school. Provides that career school need not provide fingerprints if Department of Education (Department) conducted state or national criminal records check within three years preceding application. Provides for issuance of conditional license for career school. Permits State Board of Education to adopt rules for conducting criminal background checks and to collect fees for criminal records search. Provides measure applies to applications for issuance or renewal of career school licenses submitted to Department on or after effective date of Act.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Protecting students
- Fingerprinting requirements
- Career school offering degrees

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND: Private career schools instruct students in a variety of career fields including computer technology, cosmetology, health care, real estate and business. House Bill 2108A clarifies the career school statutes regarding circumstances under which a career school offers degrees but also continues to offer courses not leading to a degree. The measure also provides the Superintendent additional authority to investigate career schools during the licensure process including reviewing an applicant's prior history in operating other career schools. House Bill 2108A allows for the fingerprinting of faculty and agents of a career school and provides the Department rulemaking authority for conducting criminal background checks.