76th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2012 Regular Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY House Committee on Education

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued	
Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	8 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Conger, Dembrow, Frederick, Huffman, Komp, Parrish, Gelser, Wingard
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Erin Seiler, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/7, 2/9

REVENUE: No revenue impact

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs Superintendent of Public Instruction to provide specified information for purpose of assisting school districts and high schools in increasing availability of accelerated learning options. Requires Superintendent of Public Instruction to make information available on the website of the Oregon Department of Education and to high schools, based on the extent accelerated learning entities provide information to Superintendent.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Importance of providing students with as many accelerated learning options as possible
- Different types of accelerated learning options
- Increase in utilization of accelerated learning options and dual-credit options by low-income students
- Financial savings for students
- Providing assistance to teachers who want to be community college faculty

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Removes references to advanced placement courses. Defines accelerated learning entity. Requires Superintendent of Public Instruction to make information available on Oregon Department of Education website and to high schools, based on extent accelerated learning entities provide information to Superintendent.

BACKGROUND: Accelerated learning options are college-level courses that a student can take in high school, where students participate in rigorous, college-bound, academic curriculum. Typically, a school offers these options to students who are in honors program or who have completed all of the high school courses available in the subject. Students who utilize accelerated learning options can receive college credit, college registration advantages, scholarships, or other benefits if they are able to successfully pass an examination at the end of their course work.

The opportunity to earn college credit while in high school can assist students with the increasing cost of college tuition by reducing the number of credits they must take to graduate in college. To assist students with the cost for courses and exams, the Oregon Department of Education offers assistance to help students in low-income situations participate in rigorous academic coursework that will increase their opportunities and get a head start into college. These programs are important tools for closing Oregon's achievement gap. The Oregon Advanced Placement Test Fee Program pays for examinations for students that qualify for free or reduced-cost lunch programs. School counselors certify the student's qualification to participate. The Oregon Advanced Placement Incentive Program (APIP) is a comprehensive 3-year project that will provide training and support to students, teachers, counselors, and administrators in schools where 40 percent or more of the students are qualified for free or reduced-cost lunch.