

REVENUE: Revenue statement issued

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 5 - 3 - 1

Yeas: Fagan, Gomberg, Gorsek, Reardon, Gelser

Nays: Huffman, Parrish, Whisnant

Exc.: Sprenger

Prepared By: Rick Berkobien, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/13, 3/25, 4/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows district school board to fix rates of tuition for persons who are not residents of Oregon. Defines resident pupil for purposes of net operating expenses as pupil for whom the district does not receive tuition, and if applicable, pays tuition for placement outside the state. Bars district from charging tuition for traffic safety program unless pupil is not resident of the state. Allows district to accept resident students and charge tuition only if district charged tuition to residents for the 2013-2014 school year. Provides district charging tuition must accept and process all applications and may not charge tuition to resident student who is a ward of the state or qualifies for free or reduced lunch, and requires district to make this determination each year. Requires district to hold equitable lottery when number of applicant students exceeds spots and allows for sibling preference. Allows district to increase number of slots if total expected revenue is less than 80 percent of expected revenue from State School Fund Distributions. Allows parent or guardian to request waiver of tuition and fees in case of severe financial hardship. Prohibits district from accepting distributions from State School Fund for student who pays tuition unless otherwise allowed.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Impact on Riverdale School District
- Consequences of measure if open enrollment ends
- Districts currently charging tuition

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces measure.

BACKGROUND: ORS 339.115 authorizes school districts to charge tuition fees to students who are not residents of the district, but wish to attend school there. A recent *Oregonian* article reported that Lake Oswego School District now charges \$7,000 per year for out-of-district transfers, West Linn Wilsonville School District charges \$6,750, Portland Public Schools charges \$6,240, and Tigard-Tualatin School District charges \$6,383. House Bill 2748 deletes the provision of ORS 339.115 that authorizes the school district board to “fix rates of tuition for nonresidents.”