

House Bill 2636

Sponsored by Representative HARKER, Senator STEINER HAYWARD (Presession filed.)

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**.

Establishes STEM Investment Council. Charges council with tasks related to advancement of educational goals related to science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Establishes STEM Investment Grant Program for purpose of providing funding to school districts, community colleges, public universities and other entities to advance educational goals related to science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Establishes STEM Investment Grant Account. Appropriates moneys in account to council for purpose of awarding grants under grant program.

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to council for purpose of awarding grants under grant program.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2013.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to advancement of STEM educational goals; creating new provisions; amending section 10,
3 chapter 519, Oregon Laws 2011; appropriating money; and declaring an emergency.

4 Whereas a highly educated workforce is critical to Oregon's ability to compete in the global
5 economy; and

6 Whereas all Oregon employers need employees to have basic knowledge and skills in science,
7 technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM); and

8 Whereas Oregon employers need access to highly educated professionals with advanced STEM
9 skills for the purpose of creating competitive products and services that draw money into Oregon's
10 economy and create jobs; and

11 Whereas providing high quality STEM educational opportunities for Oregon residents allows the
12 residents to participate in highly rewarding careers and to create products and services through a
13 wide variety of jobs; and

14 Whereas economic studies have shown that investments in STEM education result in increases
15 in personal income, public revenue and General Fund revenue; and

16 Whereas identifying clear goals, establishing oversight that ensures accountability, and deter-
17 mining and achieving specific measurable outcomes are critical for success; and

18 Whereas formal and informal collaboration between kindergarten through grade 12 schools,
19 community colleges and public and private colleges and universities is essential to achieving im-
20 provements in STEM education; and

21 Whereas a wide variety of best practices are available to increase students' interest and profi-
22 ciency in STEM education, including internships, mentorships, magnet schools, out-of-school pro-
23 grams, regional hubs, collective impact partnerships and teacher professional development; now,
24 therefore,

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

26 **SECTION 1. (1) The STEM Investment Council is established. The council shall function**
27 **under the direction and control of the Oregon Education Investment Board established by**

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 section 1, chapter 519, Oregon Laws 2011.

2 (2)(a) The council is established for the purpose of assisting the Chief Education Officer
3 in developing and overseeing a long-term strategy that advances the following educational
4 goals related to science, technology, engineering and mathematics:

5 (A) Double the percentage of students in 4th and 8th grades who are proficient or ad-
6 vanced in mathematics and science, as determined using a nationally representative assess-
7 ment of students' knowledge in mathematics and science; and

8 (B) Double the number of students who earn a post-secondary degree requiring profi-
9 ciency in science, technology, engineering or mathematics.

10 (b) Achievement of the goals described in paragraph (a) of this subsection shall be de-
11 termined based on a comparison between the 2014-2015 school year or academic year and the
12 2024-2025 school year or academic year.

13 (3) To advance the educational goals described in subsection (2) of this section, the
14 council shall administer the STEM Investment Grant Program established in section 7 of this
15 2013 Act.

16 (4) The council consists of nine members from the private sector who are appointed by
17 the Chief Education Officer and serve at the pleasure of the Chief Education Officer.

18 (5) To aid and advise the council in the performance of the council's duties, the Chief
19 Education Officer may establish advisory and technical committees that the Chief Education
20 Officer considers necessary.

21 (6)(a) The Chief Education Officer shall appoint a council director. The council director
22 shall serve at the pleasure of the Chief Education Officer.

23 (b) Except as otherwise directed by the Chief Education Officer, the activities of the
24 council shall be directed and supervised by the council director.

25 (7) Members of the council are not entitled to compensation, but in the discretion of the
26 Chief Education Officer may be reimbursed from funds available to the council for actual and
27 necessary travel and other expenses incurred by them in the performance of their official
28 duties in the manner and amount provided in ORS 292.495.

29 (8) The Chief Education Officer shall report annually to the Oregon Education Invest-
30 ment Board and the Legislative Assembly on the progress made toward achieving the goals
31 described in subsection (2) of this section and the distribution of funds under the STEM In-
32 vestment Grant Program.

33 **SECTION 2.** When developing the long-term strategy that advances the educational goals
34 related to science, technology, engineering and mathematics described in section 1 (2) of this
35 2013 Act, the STEM Investment Council shall take into consideration the findings of the re-
36 port submitted by the Task Force on STEM Access and Success as required by section 1,
37 chapter 94, Oregon Laws 2012.

38 **SECTION 3.** Section 2 of this 2013 Act is repealed on June 30, 2018.

39 **SECTION 4.** Section 1 of this 2013 Act is amended to read:

40 **Sec. 1.** (1) The STEM Investment Council is established. The council shall function under the
41 joint direction and control of the [*Oregon Education Investment Board established by section 1,*
42 *chapter 519, Oregon Laws 2011*] **State Board of Education and the State Board of Higher Edu-**
43 **cation.**

44 (2)(a) The council is established for the purpose of assisting the [*Chief Education Officer in*]
45 **Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Commissioner for Community College Services and**

1 **the Chancellor of the Oregon University System in jointly** developing and overseeing a long-
 2 term strategy that advances the following educational goals related to science, technology, engi-
 3 neering and mathematics:

4 (A) Double the percentage of students in 4th and 8th grades who are proficient or advanced in
 5 mathematics and science, as determined using a nationally representative assessment of students'
 6 knowledge in mathematics and science; and

7 (B) Double the number of students who earn a post-secondary degree requiring proficiency in
 8 science, technology, engineering or mathematics.

9 (b) Achievement of the goals described in paragraph (a) of this subsection shall be determined
 10 based on a comparison between the 2014-2015 school year or academic year and the 2024-2025 school
 11 year or academic year.

12 (3) To advance the educational goals described in subsection (2) of this section, the council shall
 13 administer the STEM Investment Grant Program established in section 7 of this 2013 Act.

14 (4) The council consists of nine members from the private sector who are **jointly** appointed by
 15 the [*Chief Education Officer*] **Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Commissioner for**
 16 **Community College Services and the Chancellor of the Oregon University System** and serve
 17 at the pleasure of the [*Chief Education Officer*] **superintendent, commissioner and chancellor.**

18 (5) To aid and advise the council in the performance of the council's duties, the [*Chief Education*
 19 *Officer may*] **Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Commissioner for Community College**
 20 **Services and the Chancellor of the Oregon University System may jointly** establish advisory
 21 and technical committees that the [*Chief Education Officer considers*] **superintendent, commis-**
 22 **sioner and chancellor consider** necessary.

23 (6)(a) The [*Chief Education Officer shall*] **Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Commis-**
 24 **sioner for Community College Services and the Chancellor of the Oregon University System**
 25 **shall jointly** appoint a council director. The council director shall serve at the pleasure of the [*Chief*
 26 *Education Officer*] **superintendent, commissioner and chancellor.**

27 (b) Except as otherwise directed by the [*Chief Education Officer*] **Superintendent of Public**
 28 **Instruction, the Commissioner for Community College Services and the Chancellor of the**
 29 **Oregon University System**, the activities of the council shall be directed and supervised by the
 30 council director.

31 (7) Members of the council are not entitled to compensation, but in the discretion of the [*Chief*
 32 *Education Officer*] **Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Commissioner for Community**
 33 **College Services and the Chancellor of the Oregon University System** may be reimbursed from
 34 funds available to the council for actual and necessary travel and other expenses incurred by them
 35 in the performance of their official duties in the manner and amount provided in ORS 292.495.

36 (8) The [*Chief Education Officer shall report annually to the Oregon Education Investment*
 37 *Board*] **Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Commissioner for Community College Ser-**
 38 **vices and the Chancellor of the Oregon University System shall jointly submit an annual re-**
 39 **port to the State Board of Education, the State Board of Higher Education** and the Legislative
 40 Assembly on the progress made toward achieving the goals described in subsection (2) of this section
 41 and the distribution of funds under the STEM Investment Grant Program.

42 **SECTION 5.** Section 10, chapter 519, Oregon Laws 2011, as amended by section 1, chapter 37,
 43 Oregon Laws 2012, is amended to read:

44 **Sec. 10. (1)** Sections 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7, chapter 519, Oregon Laws 2011, are repealed on March
 45 15, 2016.

1 **(2) The amendments to section 1 of this 2013 Act by section 4 of this 2013 Act become**
 2 **operative on March 15, 2016.**

3 **(3) The amendments to section 1 of this 2013 Act by section 6 of this 2013 Act become**
 4 **operative on July 1, 2025.**

5 **SECTION 6.** Section 1 of this 2013 Act, as amended by section 4 of this 2013 Act, is amended
 6 to read:

7 **Sec. 1.** (1) The STEM Investment Council is established. The council shall function under the
 8 joint direction and control of the State Board of Education and the State Board of Higher Education.

9 (2)(a) The council is established for the purpose of assisting the Superintendent of Public In-
 10 struction, the Commissioner for Community College Services and the Chancellor of the Oregon
 11 University System in jointly developing and overseeing a long-term strategy that advances the fol-
 12 lowing educational goals related to science, technology, engineering and mathematics:

13 (A) [*Double the*] **Having a specified** percentage of students in 4th and 8th grades who are pro-
 14 ficient or advanced in mathematics and science, as determined using a nationally representative
 15 assessment of students' knowledge in mathematics and science; and

16 (B) [*Double the*] **Having a specified** number of students who earn a post-secondary degree re-
 17 quiring proficiency in science, technology, engineering or mathematics.

18 [*(b) Achievement of the goals described in paragraph (a) of this subsection shall be determined*
 19 *based on a comparison between the 2014-2015 school year or academic year and the 2024-2025 school*
 20 *year or academic year.*]

21 **(b) Achievement of the goals described in paragraph (a) of this subsection shall be de-**
 22 **termined based on percentages and numbers determined by the council.**

23 (3) To advance the educational goals described in subsection (2) of this section, the council shall
 24 administer the STEM Investment Grant Program established in section 7 of this 2013 Act.

25 (4) The council consists of nine members from the private sector who are jointly appointed by
 26 the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Commissioner for Community College Services and the
 27 Chancellor of the Oregon University System and serve at the pleasure of the superintendent, com-
 28 missioner and chancellor.

29 (5) To aid and advise the council in the performance of the council's duties, the Superintendent
 30 of Public Instruction, the Commissioner for Community College Services and the Chancellor of the
 31 Oregon University System may jointly establish advisory and technical committees that the super-
 32 intendent, commissioner and chancellor consider necessary.

33 (6)(a) The Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Commissioner for Community College Ser-
 34 vices and the Chancellor of the Oregon University System shall jointly appoint a council director.
 35 The council director shall serve at the pleasure of the superintendent, commissioner and chancellor.

36 (b) Except as otherwise directed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Commissioner
 37 for Community College Services and the Chancellor of the Oregon University System, the activities
 38 of the council shall be directed and supervised by the council director.

39 (7) Members of the council are not entitled to compensation, but in the discretion of the Su-
 40 perintendent of Public Instruction, the Commissioner for Community College Services and the
 41 Chancellor of the Oregon University System may be reimbursed from funds available to the council
 42 for actual and necessary travel and other expenses incurred by them in the performance of their
 43 official duties in the manner and amount provided in ORS 292.495.

44 (8) The Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Commissioner for Community College Services
 45 and the Chancellor of the Oregon University System shall jointly submit an annual report to the

1 State Board of Education, the State Board of Higher Education and the Legislative Assembly on the
 2 progress made toward achieving the goals described in subsection (2) of this section and the dis-
 3 tribution of funds under the STEM Investment Grant Program.

4 **SECTION 7. (1) The STEM Investment Grant Program is established to provide funding**
 5 **to school districts, community colleges and public universities listed in ORS 352.002 to ad-**
 6 **vance the goals described in section 1 (2) of this 2013 Act.**

7 **(2) The STEM Investment Council shall administer the grant program established by this**
 8 **section.**

9 **(3)(a) An application for a grant awarded under this section may be submitted by:**

- 10 **(A) A school district;**
- 11 **(B) A community college district;**
- 12 **(C) A public university;**
- 13 **(D) The Department of Education;**
- 14 **(E) The Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development;**
- 15 **(F) The Oregon University System;**
- 16 **(G) Any other state agency; or**
- 17 **(H) Any combination of entities identified in this paragraph.**

18 **(b) A grant awarded under this section may be used for:**

- 19 **(A) Activities that are for the classroom or that are extracurricular; or**
- 20 **(B) A project that involves collaboration with a private entity.**

21 **(4) When evaluating applications for a grant, the council:**

22 **(a) Shall give priority to applications for activities or projects that produce the largest**
 23 **impact at the lowest cost and for the greatest number of students throughout this state,**
 24 **including grants for activities or projects that:**

- 25 **(A) Use the grant for start-up purposes and are determined by the council to be likely**
 26 **to become self-supporting within three years;**
- 27 **(B) Can be replicated by other entities in this state;**
- 28 **(C) Show evidence of attracting matching funds;**
- 29 **(D) If the applicant is an entity identified in subsection (3)(a)(A) to (C) of this section,**
 30 **have demonstrable support from the governing body of the entity; or**
- 31 **(E) Help improve access by underrepresented groups to activities that involve science,**
 32 **technology, engineering or mathematics;**

33 **(b) May give priority to applications for activities or projects that benefit students in**
 34 **more than one student group among students in kindergarten through grade 12, students in**
 35 **community colleges and students in universities;**

36 **(c) Shall attempt to achieve a balance, as determined by the council, among grants that**
 37 **are awarded for the sole benefit of students in kindergarten through grade 12, students in**
 38 **community colleges and students in universities; and**

39 **(d) Shall take into consideration geographic and demographic diversity.**

40 **SECTION 8. The STEM Investment Grant Account is established in the State Treasury,**
 41 **separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the STEM Investment**
 42 **Grant Account shall be credited to the account. Moneys in the account are continuously**
 43 **appropriated to the STEM Investment Council for the STEM Investment Grant Program es-**
 44 **tablished by section 7 of this 2013 Act.**

45 **SECTION 9. There is appropriated to the STEM Investment Council, for the biennium**

1 **beginning July 1, 2013, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$50 million, which may be**
2 **expended for grants awarded under the STEM Investment Grant Program established by**
3 **section 7 of this 2013 Act.**

4 **SECTION 10. This 2013 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
5 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2013 Act takes effect**
6 **July 1, 2013.**

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