FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2015 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

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Measure Description:

Prohibits retaliation against student of education program who makes good faith report regarding possible violation of state or federal law, rule or regulation.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development, Department of Education, Higher Education Coordinating Commission, School Districts

Local Government Mandate:

This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

Analysis:

Costs associated with rulemaking for Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) are considered to be minimal, however it is not clear how many issues of non-compliance and sanctions may need to be enforced by the HECC or ODE and therefore the fiscal impact is indeterminate. Both HECC and ODE will need to establish a complaint process, process complaints, investigate complaints, issue Orders, monitor any necessary corrective action, as well as provide technical assistance regarding compliant policy requirements and procedures. The above mentioned workload could feasibly be absorbable by both agencies however such a determination will be driven by the total number of complaints which is not quantified at this time.

Provisions of the bill that create a private right of action for students and parents or legal guardians to bring civil actions under ORS 659A.885 may increase liability to school districts, public universities and community colleges. An expense impact due to an increase in liability is not quantifiable at this time.