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

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## **Measure Description:**

Provides that time spent by students consuming breakfast is considered instructional time in certain circumstances.

## Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Education, 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:

The bill permits up to fifteen minutes of instruction in the classroom, provided when students are consuming breakfast, to be considered instructional time. Based on 2013-14 Oregon 'before the bell' vs. 'after the bell' school breakfast participation rates, a 40% increase in participating schools' breakfast programs is anticipated as a result of moving or extending breakfast services into traditional classroom instruction time. Under ORS 327.535, the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) is required to reimburse qualified school districts for each breakfast provided free of charge to a student who is eligible for a reduced price breakfast. Alternatively there are a larger number of school districts that qualify, under Federal Community Eligibility Provisions, for reimbursed of meals by the federal government.

Districts qualifying for the Federal Community Eligibility Provisions are reimbursed for breakfasts at a rate of \$1.57 per breakfast and these total additional breakfasts are estimated to cost \$7,501,092 NL/FF per biennium. The remaining school districts that are not reimbursed with Federal Funds are reimbursed by ODE at a rate of \$0.30 General Fund (GF) for each reduced price breakfast; these total additional breakfasts are estimated to cost \$128,555 GF per biennium.

ODE staff is anticipated to provide technical assistance to school districts regarding the new requirements of this bill which is a minimal and absorbable cost to the ODE budget. The agency estimates there is sufficient funding for 2015-17 in the Child Nutrition Grant-in-aid budget included in the Co-Chairs' budget framework for the General Fund cost of the program. Therefore no additional General Fund appropriation is needed for this bill.