Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2015 Regular Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY Joint Committee On Ways and Means

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to develop and implement statewide education plan for students enrolled in early childhood through post-secondary education who are black or African-American or students not covered under existing culturally specific statewide education plan, who have experienced disproportionate results in education due to historical practices, as identified in rule by State Board of Education (SBE). ODE will form advisory group including representatives from community, education stakeholders, Early Learning Division, Youth Development Division and Higher Education Coordinating Commission to advise ODE on development, implementation and grant eligibility criteria. SBE will adopt rules for implementation of plan. Specifies issues and strategies that plan must contain to address disparities amongst identified students. Requires ODE to submit biennial report to legislature. Directs ODE to award grants to early learning hubs, providers of early learning services, school districts, post-secondary institutions of education and community-based organizations to implement plan. Requires ODE to submit progress report to interim committee of legislature no later than January 1, 2016. Appropriates money from General Fund to ODE to implement plan. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Need for the program.
- Role of the Oregon Education Investment's Board's Equity Lens in relation to this program.

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Removes the section relating to the appropriation for the program but retains the requirements around the timing of the development of the plan and its implementation. The funding for this program will part of the Oregon Department of Education's budget bill.

BACKGROUND:

In January, 2013, The Oregonian reported that in 2012, less than 55 percent of African Americans, Native Americans and students learning English as a second language in Oregon earned a diploma in four years.

HB 2016 requires Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to develop and implement a statewide education plan for students who are black or African-American or students not covered under existing culturally specific statewide education plan, who have experienced disproportionate results in education due to historical practices. The plan must address: disparities experienced by students in achieving academic success, the historical practices leading to disproportionate outcomes for students and examine culturally appropriate best practices.