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:

Establishes funding mechanism for activities related to science, technology, engineering and mathematics education and activities related to career and technical education that can lead to high wage and high demand jobs.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Education, Oregon Educational Investment Board, Teacher Standards and Practices Commission, Higher Education Coordinating Commission

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 provides the authority to the Department of Education (ODE) to administer various Career and Technical Education (CTE) and Science and Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) programs. These programs include the STEM Innovation Grant program, Career Pathways program, Statewide Teacher Development and Mentoring program and the Course Equivalency pilot project. The bill also establishes the Connecting Education to Careers Account effective July 1, 2017 and directs the Department of Education to disburse moneys in the account as follows: 40 percent for activities related to STEM, and 60 percent for activities related to CTE that can lead to high wage and high demand jobs.

The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission is directed to advance the policy on career and technical education through a number of requirements specified by the bill, including by working with industry stakeholders and the Department of Education and the Higher Education Coordinating Commission. The Department of Education is directed to administer the distribution of grants or contracts related to CTE teacher training which are not to exceed \$250,000 per grant or contract. The Oregon Education Investment Board, in consultation with the Department of Education, is directed to develop and maintain a website with information relevant to career and technical education.

The fiscal impact associated with this legislation has been accounted for in the respective 2015-17 budgets for the Department of Education. Overall State investment for CTE and STEM programs in the ODE budget is \$35 million General Fund. Department of Education (HB 5016).