HB 2897 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

Action Date:	04/01/19
Action:	Do pass with amendments
	and be referred to Student Success by prior reference. (Printed A-Eng.)
Vote:	7-2-0-0
Yeas:	7 - Alonso Leon, Doherty, Helt, Hernandez, Neron, Reardon, Sollman
Nays:	2 - Reschke, Wallan
Fiscal:	Fiscal impact issued
Revenue:	No revenue impact
Prepared By:	Alethia Miller, LPRO Analyst
Meeting Dates:	3/4, 4/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes Early Childhood Equity Fund (Equity Fund) in the State Treasury. Allows Early Learning Division (ELD) to make grants for culturally specific early learning, early childhood, and parent support programs. Establishes program requirements to receive grants. Requires ELD to monitor capacity needs to provide technical assistance to grantees. Requires ELD to conduct biennial evaluation of program and establishes evaluation of measurement outcomes. Requires ELD to submit report by September 15 of every odd-numbered year to interim committees of Legislative Assembly on impact of grants and changes to capacity of culturally specific organizations. Appropriates \$20,000,000 of General Fund money for Equity Fund. Effective 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Determining the number of students the equity fund would provide for
- Statewide impact of equity fund and work of Joint Committee on Student Success

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Promotes capacity of culturally specific organizations to deliver these programs. Specifies serving communities within geographic boundaries of Oregon, including tribal communities.

BACKGROUND:

The Early Learning Division (ELD) supports and oversees Oregon's public early childhood programs, and its mission focuses on child care, early learning programs, and cross systems integration. The early learning hubs represent 16 regions in Oregon and use cross-sector partners to produce local systems that are aligned and coordinated.

House Bill 2897 A creates an Early Childhood Equity Fund in the State Treasury to make grants for culturally specific early learning, early childhood, and parent support programs. It requires the ELD to evaluate and measure program outcomes.