

SB 905 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Smith Warner

House Committee On Rules

Action Date: 06/17/19

Action: Do Pass the A-Eng bill.

Vote: 7-0-0-0

Yeas: 7 - Boles, Holvey, Nosse, Smith Warner, Sprenger, Williamson, Wilson

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Josh Nasbe, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 6/13, 6/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes general rule that child, whose parent or guardian voluntarily places child in substitute care while retaining legal guardianship, is resident of school district where substitute care program is located. Provides exception to allow child to attend school in district where parents or guardian reside, under specified circumstances. Declares emergency, takes effect July 1, 2019.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Best interests of the child

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2017, 7,831 Oregon children were in foster care on an average daily basis. A child may enter foster care through an involuntary or voluntary placement. Oregon law provides a child with involuntary placement should attend their original school unless it is in the best interest of the child to enroll in another school district. In the case of a voluntary placement, Oregon law is silent on where the child should go to school.

Senate Bill 905 A creates a general rule that children who are voluntarily placed with a public or private agency by their parent or guardian are to attend school in the district in which they are placed. The bill provides an exception to allow children to attend school in the district where their parents or guardians reside, when the placement is within 20 miles of the school, a plan exists for the child to return home, it is in the best interests of the child to attend the school and the child would prefer to remain in the school district.