

## **HB 2368 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

### **House Committee On Education**

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**Prepared By:** Lisa Gezelter, LPRO Analyst

**Sub-Referral To:** Joint Committee On Ways and Means

**Meeting Dates:** 3/9, 3/30

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#### **WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Defines trauma-informed approach. Establishes pilot program to improve educational outcomes by employing trauma-informed approaches in schools. Requires Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to coordinate with Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to distribute funding to school districts. Establishes application process and eligibility requirements for school districts and education service districts. Establishes proposal and plan requirements. Requires ODE to establish timelines and evaluate applications. Requires distribution of funding based on participation in other pilot programs related to trauma-informed approaches, evaluation of plan, and available funding. Allows ODE to coordinate with statewide nonprofit organization. Establishes reporting requirements. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2021.

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Effects of trauma on children
- Value of trauma-informed approaches

#### **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

-3 Replaces measure. Requires Oregon Department of Education and Oregon Health Authority to establish pilot program using culturally responsive trauma-informed approaches to support student mental and behavioral health. Establishes program requirements. Requires pilot program distribute funding to two school districts, two education service districts, and two community or culturally specific organizations. Establishes application process and requirements. Establishes application review criteria. Establishes reporting requirements. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2021.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

House Bill 4002 (2016) established a trauma-informed pilot program for the purpose of reducing chronic absenteeism. The measure appropriated \$500,000, which was later awarded to pilot trauma-informed approaches in two schools: Tigard High School in the Tigard-Tualatin School District and Central High School in the Central School District. Funding for the pilot was continued by the legislature in 2017. Findings were published in 2019. Among the key findings were the following: trauma-informed school coordinators played a key role in guiding the work and leading implementation efforts; cohorts served to promote readiness and guide schools in implementation; staff training is required to introduce new concepts and increase awareness of trauma-informed practices; and staff members' self-reported awareness of specific strategies and their usage did not necessarily match. House Bill 2368 establishes a new trauma-informed pilot program.