

SB 478 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Action Date: 03/24/21

Action: Do pass with amendments and requesting referral to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Engrossed.)

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Dembrow, Gelser, Gorsek, Robinson, Thomsen

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Lisa Gezelter, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/17, 3/24

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires school districts to use inclusive and effective methods for identifying talented and gifted children and for communicating with parents. Establishes requirements for identification method. Requires State Board of Education to adopt rules for implementation.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Talented and gifted (TAG) education
- Methods for identifying TAG students
- Problems with current identification methods
- Equity, diversity, and inclusion

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

Current law defines talented and gifted (TAG) children as those requiring special educational programs or services beyond those normally provided by the regular school program in order to realize their contribution to self and society who demonstrate outstanding ability or potential in one of several academic, creative, or leadership areas. School districts are required to submit a plan of instruction for TAG children, and may apply for state funds to provide TAG instruction. The legislatively adopted budget for the current biennium contained a carve-out from the State School Fund for \$175,000 to pay for administrative costs of the Oregon Department of Education related to TAG education, but no funding for grants to school districts has been allocated.

Senate Bill 478 A modifies the methods by which districts must identify students as talented and gifted.