

HB 4091 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to develop and implement a statewide education plan for Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students. Directs ODE to form advisory group of stakeholders prior to implementation of plan. Prescribes areas of focus and strategies of plan. Requires ODE to submit a biennial report on development and implementation of plan to interim legislative committees. Directs ODE to award grants to education providers to implement plan. Provides that State Board of Education may establish grant eligibility criteria by rule. Directs ODE to use Statewide Education Initiatives Account moneys to align with recently created statewide education plans. Makes technical statutory changes relating to Department of Early Learning and Care. Directs ODE to identify and collect data on racial and ethnic subgroups in order to implement statewide education plans beginning with 2022-2023 school year. Declares emergency, effective March 9, 2022.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon currently has statewide education plans for students who are Black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Latino or Hispanic, and minority gender identities or sexual orientations. These plans require ODE to form advisory groups composed of individuals who identify as members of each group in order to identify strategies for addressing historically disproportionate educational outcomes. ODE is empowered to use funds from the Statewide Education Initiatives Account, which was created by the Student Success Act in 2019, to implement the recommendations developed under these plans.

The U.S. Office of Management and Budget defines Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders as individuals who have origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Polynesian, Melanesian, or Micronesian islands. Recent data from the U.S. Census suggests that there are roughly 19,000 individuals in Oregon who identify as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, although that number increases to over 35,000 when multiracial individuals are included. Oregon does not currently have a statewide education plan for students who are Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.

House Bill 4091 directs the Oregon Department of Education to develop and implement a statewide education plan for Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students.