

SB 278 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 3/30

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires separate calculation of virtual public charter school's weighted average daily membership (ADMw) if its school district had a decrease either in average daily membership (ADM) or weighted average daily membership (ADMw) from the prior school year. Applies to distributions for the 2022-2023 school year. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon's school districts are primarily funded through distributions from the State School Fund. The amount of money each school district is allocated from the State School Fund is based on a formula that takes into account the total number of students attending school in that district (average daily membership, or ADM), the particular needs of the student population (weighted average daily membership, or ADMw), and the school district's available local revenues. The formula uses the higher of the current year's ADMw or prior year's ADMw. This practice is referred to as extended ADMw. Due to the number of children who enrolled in virtual charter schools for the 2020-2021 school year but may return to their brick and mortar schools for the 2021-2022 school year, virtual charter schools and the districts that sponsor them will likely see a significant increase in their state school fund allocations for the 2021-2022 school year.

Senate Bill 743 (2021) required a separate calculation of a virtual public charter school's ADMw if its school district had a decrease in ADM the prior year. Senate Bill 278 adds a requirement for a separate calculation of a virtual public charter school's ADMw if its school district had a decrease in ADMw the previous year.