

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

SB 1552 Relating to education

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Capital Construction Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Dembrow

SB 1552 is an omnibus measure that makes changes to Oregon’s education laws. It adds new statutory provisions, makes statutory corrections to measures that passed in the 2023 legislative session, and directs state education agencies to plan for future programs and services.

Significant provisions include establishing a youth advisory group; directing the Department of Education to plan for collecting grade and course completion data for public school students in grades six through twelve; directing the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to establish a direct admissions program for public universities and community colleges and to conduct a study of the forestry workforce; and directing the Legislative Policy and Research Office to contract for a study of the Quality Education Model and the state’s financing of K-12 public education. The measure makes changes to statutes governing the Educator Advancement Council, the Youth Corrections and Juvenile Detention Education programs, recovery high schools, occupational licensing boards, and classified employees, and contains a \$300,000 General Fund appropriation to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to contract out for the forestry workforce study.

The –A5 amendment makes changes to certain statutory provisions and operative dates for the youth advisory group, for applied baccalaureate programs, for occupational licensing boards, and for pay rates for substitute teachers. It appropriates a total of

\$865,000 General Fund to four state agencies to carry out certain provisions of the measure. It appropriates \$199,000 General Fund to the Department of Education for two positions (0.69 FTE) to implement and staff the youth advisory group. It appropriates \$143,000 General Fund to the Oregon Health Authority for one position (0.63 FTE) to begin implementation of occupational licensing board pre-determinations. It appropriates \$159 General Fund to HECC for one position to address the implementation of a direct admission program. And it appropriates \$364,000 General Fund to the Legislative Policy and Research Office for one limited-duration position (0.38 FTE) and for contract services for a study of the Quality Education Model.

General Fund appropriations to implement SB 1552 total \$1.2 million, five positions, and 2.20 FTE.

The Capital Construction Subcommittee recommends SB 1552 be amended by the –A5 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.