HB 2511 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

Prepared By: Lisa Gezelter, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/10, 2/24

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires the Oregon Department of Education to collect certain information on all individuals employed by school districts or education service districts, not just licensed teachers and administrators. It requires school districts and education service districts to provide the requested information.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Lack of information about salaries and employees available to legislators as they make funding decisions
- Work of Joint Task Force on Statewide Educator Salaries

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

<u>Senate Bill 283 (2023)</u> established the <u>Joint Task Force on Statewide Educator Salary Schedules</u>. Consisting of legislators, school advocates, and community members, the Task Force met from September, 2023 through September, 2024. Task Force members heard presentations from researchers, Canadian officials, state agencies, and labor organizations, and then deliberated over recommendations. In its <u>final report</u>, the Task Force adopted 14 recommendations, including several studies relating to the education workforce. House Bill 2511 resulted from the work of the Task Force.

During the course of its work, the Task Force learned that the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) collects position and salary information only for licensed staff. The ODE data collection is conducted for the purpose of calculating teacher experience as part of the State School Fund distribution, and is governed by OAR []. School districts have the option of sending data on unlicensed employees, but many do not. As a result, Oregon lacks a comprehensive view of the number and positions of school district employees throughout the state and the associated personnel costs.