

SB 749 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 3/24, 3/31

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires the Oregon Department of Education to establish a pilot program and award grants to allow students to participate in the preparation of the budget for a school district. The measure requires the State Board of Education to adopt rules for schools to apply for the grant program and to consult with a nonprofit with experience in participatory budgeting. The measure requires ODE to submit a progress report by September 15, 2026, and a final report by September 15, 2028. The measure appropriates \$500,000 from the General Fund to ODE to carry out this measure. The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.

Fiscal impact: May have a fiscal impact, but have no issue statement

Revenue impact: May have a fiscal impact, but have no issue statement

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Impacts of participatory budgeting on students
- Participatory budgeting impact on a students civic education
- Participatory budgeting process
- How the appropriation will work for the pilot program
- Student participation on the implementation of the projects

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 The amendment allows the Oregon Department of Education to contract with an entity to manage the pilot program grants. It extends the dates for first awarding grants, the first progress report, the final report and the repeal of the act by one year.

BACKGROUND:

According to the [European Parliamentary Research Service](#), participatory budgeting is where citizens directly engage in making collective decisions about how to allocate public budgets, capital investment and grants. The same report also provided that 178 governments in North America use participatory budgeting.