HB 3199 A -A6 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Prepared By: Wendy Gibson, Budget Analyst

Meeting Dates: 6/18, 6/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires the Legislative Policy and Research Office (LPRO) Director to study and submit a report on policies, programs, and other initiatives implemented in Oregon intended to improve school attendance. It requires the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to create an advisory committee to recommend a policy and requires ODE to submit a report on improving school attendance. The measure requires ODE to publish and update attendance data on their website four times a year. It requires ODE to review, recommend, and develop best practices for recording student absences and responding to absences of more than 10 days. The measure requires ODE to develop a common coding system for recording student absences. It also requires the State Board of Education to establish rules for allowed uses for Early Warning Grants and modifies the grant allocation formula. The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.

Detailed Summary

Attendance Study (Section 1-2)

- Requires the LPRO Director to conduct a study regarding the policies, grant programs, support programs, communication strategies, attendance campaigns, and community partnerships or other initiatives related to chronic absenteeism implemented in Oregon since the 2017-2018 school year intending to improve school attendance.
- Requires the LPRO Director to review policies to collect attendance data.
- Directs the LPRO Director to study the goals of each attendance program, the differences between the intent of the implementation and how it was actually implemented, the effectiveness of each program in improving attendance, how funding levels impact the effectiveness of each attendance program, and any barriers encountered for each initiative.
- Directs the LPRO Director to study how the collection of attendance data helped or hindered the
 understanding of the impact of policies and the options for separating out the collection of data for school
 funding purposes, school improvement, and student success purposes.
- Requires the LPRO Director to consider longitudinal performance growth targets, technical assistance
 provided by education service districts (ESDs), school performance reports, and average daily membership
 data collection.
- Requires the LPRO Director to select a representative sample of school districts and ESDs.
- Requires state government agencies, school districts, and education service districts to assist the LPRO Director or any entity under contract with the Director in conducting the study.
- Requires the LPRO Director to submit a report to the Oregon Legislature by September 30, 2026.

Attendance Advisory Committee (Sections 3-5)

- Requires ODE to convene an advisory committee to review the LPRO study and recommend a policy regarding
 the improvement of school attendance with an emphasis on student groups who have historically
 experienced academic disparities.
- Establishes membership requirements for the advisory committee.
- Requires the advisory committee to provide specified information to the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to develop a memorandum of understanding with the Oregon Department of Human Services, school districts, and other entities.
- Requires ODE to submit a preliminary report by May 30, 2026, and a final report by September 30, 2026.

Requires the advisory committee to meet by October 31, 2025.

Attendance Data (Section 6-7)

- Defines the terms "absent," "chronically absent," and "regular attender."
- Requires ODE to publish on its website attendance data provided by school districts and public charter schools related to students who are regular attenders or who are chronically absent.
- Establishes standards for the information made public including the disaggregation of data, the total number
 of students in average daily membership for the school district or public charter school, the total number of
 students who are regular attenders, percentage of students who are regular attenders, the total number of
 students who are chronically absent, and the percentage of students who are chronically absent.
- Requires ODE to update the data four times a year.

Recording of Student Absences (Section 8-9)

- Requires ODE to review and make recommendations for recording of student absences by school districts as well as school districts' responses to student absences that exceed 10 days.
- Requires ODE to develop a common coding system for school districts to record and report student absences.
- Requires ODE to submit a report to the Oregon Legislature and the State Board of Education summarizing the
 review, the recommendations, and best practices of recording attendance, as well as summarizing the
 common coding system developed and recommending any additional changes in administrative rules and
 additional legislation.

Early Warning System (Section 10-12)

- Adds a parent notification system to the grant funding for the Early Warning System.
- Requires the State Board of Education to establish rules for allowed uses for Early Warning Grants. Prioritizes
 the purchase of technology to assist parent notification and early warning systems before they can be used
 for other purposes.
- Modifies the grant award formula and adjusts this amount for inflation each year using the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, West Region.
- Requires ODE to adjust the grant amount for school districts with a ADMw of 1650 or less to receive a minimum grant amount determined by the State Board of Education.
- Amends ORS 327.254 to allow ODE to use money in the Statewide Education Initiatives Account to fund parent notification systems.

Captions and Emergency Clause (Section 13-14)

- States that units used will not become part of Oregon Law.
- Declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Study contents
- Reporting deadlines
- Minimal fiscal impact

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-A6 The amendment deletes section 6-12 and adjusts the timeline in section 3-5 to align the advisory committee recommendations with the date the study is complete.

- Requires the advisory committee to be convened by May 31, 2026.
- Requires ODE to submit a preliminary report by November 30, 2026, and a final report by February 15, 2027.
- Repeals section 3 on June 30, 2027.

The -A6 amendment has a minimal fiscal impact.

BACKGROUND:

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In the 2023-2024 school year, the <u>Oregon Department of Education</u> (ODE) reported that 66 percent of students were regular attenders, or students who attended at least 90 percent of classes. Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, for 2018-2019 school year, ODE reported that 79.6 percent of all students were regular attenders.

According to the <u>National Center for Education Statistics</u>, poor attendance can lead to poorer performance in subsequent years and that people who did not complete high school missed more days of school in first grade than their peers who graduated high school.

