

HB 3552 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Higher Education and Workforce Development

Action Date: 04/08/25

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 4-2-1-0

Yeas: 4 - Fragala, Hudson, McDonald, Munoz

Nays: 2 - Harbick, Yunker

Exc: 1 - Wright

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/18, 4/3, 4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure permits each education service district (ESD) to establish a regional career center to provide career and technical education (CTE) support and coordination. It requires each regional career center to convene an advisory committee and specifies membership and purposes.

Detailed Summary

- Permits an education services district (ESD) to establish a regional career center to provide CTE support coordination, including jointly with one or more community colleges in the region.
- Outlines the purposes of a regional career center.
- Requires each regional career center to convene an advisory committee and specifies membership and purposes.
- Requires the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to award grants to up to 12 ESDs for a regional career center.
- Requires each ESD with a regional career center to submit an annual report to ODE on the completion of CTE programs, credits, and credentials.
- Expands the services that an ESD must include in its local service plan to include providing a regional career center.
- Appropriates \$3.6 million from the General Fund to ODE to support regional career centers and distribute grants to ESDs.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Workforce training in high-demand industries
- Provisions of proposed amendment

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

The amendment replaces Sections 2 and 4 of the measure. It modifies the purposes of regional career centers and reduces the appropriation from \$156.4 million to \$3.6 million.

Detailed Summary

- Establishes regional career centers to provide CTE support and coordination instead of CTE opportunities for students of component districts.
- Removes developing, constructing, or remodeling facilities from the purpose of regional career centers.
- Adds collecting regional student, industry, and workforce data; aiding local and regional assessments and prioritization; and developing CTE programs to the purposes of regional career centers.

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- Requires each regional career center to convene an advisory committee and specifies membership and purposes.
- Requires the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to award grants to up to 12 ESDs for a regional career center.
- Requires each ESD with a regional career center to submit an annual report to ODE on the completion of CTE programs, credits, and credentials.
- Reduces the appropriation from \$156.4 million to \$3.6 million.

BACKGROUND:

Education service districts (ESDs) are established in ORS Chapter 334. ESDs are tasked with assisting school districts and the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) in achieving Oregon's educational goals by providing equitable, high quality, cost-effective, and locally responsive educational services at a regional level. ESDs have locally elected boards and board-appointed superintendents. Currently, Oregon has 19 ESDs.

The services an ESD provides are largely determined by the needs of the ESD's component school districts, who work with the ESD to develop a local service plan in accordance with ORS 334.175. Oregon law currently requires local service plans to include special education services and services for at-risk students; technology support to component school districts; school improvement services, including support for career and technical education; and administrative and support services.

In 2021, the Legislative Assembly appropriated \$6.9 million to expand the Salem-Keizer Career & Technical Education Center (CTEC) into a regional center serving students in Marion, Polk, and Yamhill Counties ([Senate Bill 5534 \(2021\)](#)). [Testimony](#) submitted by the superintendent of the Willamette Education Service District (WESD) described the project as a public-private partnership between Mountain West Investment and the ESD.

In 2023, the House Committee on Education considered [House Bill 3236 \(2023\)](#), which would have appropriated \$2.85 million to the Willamette Career Academy. The Legislative Assembly approved a \$1 million appropriation for the center in [Senate Bill 5506, Section 312](#), but this line item was [vetoed by Governor Tina Kotek](#).