

House Bill 3552

Sponsored by Representative MCINTIRE

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: Allows ESDs to set up regional career centers for regional CTE needs. (Flesch Readability Score: 60.7).

Allows education service districts to establish regional career centers to provide career and technical education. Prescribes the purposes of the centers and the requirements of funding plans for the centers.

Appropriates moneys to the Department of Education from the General Fund for the purpose of providing grants to education service districts for regional career centers.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to regional career centers; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 334.175.

2 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

3 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2025 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 334.**

4 **SECTION 2. (1) Each education service district may establish a regional career center**
5 **to provide regionally appropriate career and technical education opportunities for students**
6 **of component school districts. A regional career center may be jointly established by two or**
7 **more education service districts.**

8 (2) **The purposes of a regional career center are to:**

9 (a) **Provide coordinated planning and deployment of funding to meet the career and**
10 **technical needs of component school districts; and**

11 (b) **As needed, develop, construct or remodel facilities, including mobile facilities, to in-**
12 **crease the number and capacity of advanced career development opportunities or regionally**
13 **appropriate career learning opportunities.**

14 (3) **The purposes of a regional career center shall be met through a funding plan devel-**
15 **oped by the education service district, or, as appropriate, education service districts, after**
16 **consultation with representatives of:**

17 (a) **Component school districts;**

18 (b) **Local workforce development boards, as defined in ORS 660.300, that serve the area**
19 **of the education service district;**

20 (c) **Community colleges that serve the students of the education service district;**

21 (d) **Local and regional industries of the education service district; and**

22 (e) **City and county governments within the boundaries of the education service district.**

23 (4) **A funding plan developed for a regional career center:**

24 (a) **Must be based on an assessment of the career and technical education needs for the**
25 **area served by the education service district and an identification of any deficiencies in**
26 **funding or services to meet those needs.**

27 (b) **Must demonstrate how the use of funds supports providing students with:**
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NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 (A) Pathways that lead to high wage and high demand jobs; and

2 (B) Work-based learning opportunities that can lead to a relevant, industry-recognized
3 credential by the time the student receives a high school diploma.

4 (c) Must demonstrate how students will receive high-quality career navigation and ad-
5 vising services to identify potential careers and relevant pathways to those potential careers.

6 (d) Must show how the proposed uses of funds are appropriate to the needs of the area
7 served by the education service district and its students and how the center's services will
8 operate across the area being served.

9 (5) Based on rules adopted by the State Board of Education and funding plans submitted
10 by education service districts, the Department of Education shall award grants to education
11 service districts for regional career centers from moneys available for regional career cen-
12 ters.

13 **SECTION 3.** ORS 334.175 is amended to read:

14 334.175. (1) An education service district shall provide regionalized core services to component
15 school districts. The goals of these services are to:

16 (a) Assist component school districts in meeting the requirements of state and federal law;

17 (b) Improve student learning;

18 (c) Enhance the quality of instruction provided to students;

19 (d) Enable component school districts and the students who attend schools in those districts to
20 have equitable access to resources; and

21 (e) Maximize operational and fiscal efficiencies for component school districts.

22 (2) The services provided by an education service district shall be provided according to a local
23 service plan developed by the education service district and component school districts. The educa-
24 tion service district and component school districts shall develop the local service plan to meet the
25 goals specified in subsection (1) of this section. The local service plan must include services in at
26 least the following areas:

27 (a) Programs for children with special needs, including but not limited to special education ser-
28 vices and services for at-risk students.

29 (b) Technology support for component school districts and the individual technology plans of
30 those districts, including but not limited to technology infrastructure services, data services, in-
31 structional technology services and distance learning.

32 (c) School improvement services for component school districts, including but not limited to:

33 (A) Services designed to support component school districts in meeting the requirements of state
34 and federal law;

35 (B) Services designed to allow the education service district to participate in and facilitate a
36 review of the state and federal standards related to the provision of a quality education by compo-
37 nent school districts;

38 (C) Services designed to support and facilitate continuous school improvement planning;

39 (D) Services designed to address schoolwide behavior and climate issues; and

40 (E) Services designed to support career and technical education, **including providing a re-**
41 **gional career center as described in section 2 of this 2025 Act.**

42 (d) Administrative and support services for component school districts, including but not limited
43 to services designed to consolidate component school district business functions, liaison services
44 between the Department of Education and component school districts and registration of children
45 being taught by private teachers, parents or legal guardians pursuant to ORS 339.035.

1 (e) Other services that an education service district is required to provide by state or federal
 2 law, including but not limited to services required under ORS 339.005 to 339.090.

3 (3) In addition to the services specified in subsection (2) of this section, a local service plan may
 4 include other services that are designed to meet regional needs.

5 (4) A local service plan shall also contain annual performance measures for the education ser-
 6 vice district.

7 (5) A local service plan must:

8 (a) Be adopted by the board of the education service district.

9 (b) After being adopted by the board of the education service district, be approved on or before
 10 March 1 by resolution of two-thirds of the component school districts that are a part of the educa-
 11 tion service district and that have at least a majority of the pupils included in the average daily
 12 membership of the education service district, as determined by the reports of such school districts
 13 for the preceding year, enrolled in the schools of the school districts.

14 (6) Notwithstanding the process for approval and adoption required by subsection (5) of this
 15 section, if the component school districts approve an amendment to a local service plan pursuant
 16 to subsection (5)(b) of this section, the board of an education service district may amend a local
 17 service plan that has been previously adopted by the board and approved by the component school
 18 districts. An amendment to a local service plan may be done at any time.

19 (7) If a component school district determines that a local service plan, or the provision of ser-
 20 vices under a local service plan, does not meet the service needs of the component school district,
 21 the component school district may contract with a public entity for the provision of services.

22 (8) An education service district may provide the services required by the local service plan
 23 directly through the staff of the district. In addition, an education service district may provide ser-
 24 vices required by the local service plan through the operation of a public school, a public charter
 25 school pursuant to ORS chapter 338, an alternative school or a preschool.

26 (9) An education service district may provide the services required by the local service plan in
 27 cooperation with another education service district or with a school district. In addition, an educa-
 28 tion service district may contract with a public or private entity for the provision of services.

29 **SECTION 4. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**
 30 **ated to the Department of Education, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, out of the**
 31 **General Fund, the amount of \$156,400,000, which may be expended for the purpose of sup-**
 32 **porting regional career centers and distributing grants to education service districts as**
 33 **provided by section 2 (5) of this 2025 Act.**

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