Legislative Fiscal Office
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Bill Title: Relating to outdoor school; declaring an emergency.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Oregon Lottery Commission, Department of Administrative Services

Summary of Fiscal Impact: Costs related to the measure may require budgetary action - see analysis.

Measure Description

The measure amends the biennial lottery allocation from the Administrative Services Economic Development Fund (EDF) to the Outdoor School Education Fund in SB 5530 (2025) from $48.1 million to $54.1 million. The outdoor school program is a week-long residential program, supported by Lottery Funds, largely for 5th and 6th grade students, that focuses teaching on ecology, conservation, and environmental science.

Fiscal Analysis

The Department of Administrative Services distributes the EDF in adherence with constitutional and statutory funding priorities, as well as specific legislative allocations. The Oregon Constitution includes dedicated transfers to the Education Stability Fund (18%), Parks and Natural Resources Fund (15%), and Veterans' Services Fund (1.5%). Statutory dedications include outdoor school education programs (4%, up to a maximum of $5.5 million per quarter adjusted for inflation), county economic development programs (2.5% of net video lottery receipts), gambling addiction treatment programs (1%), public university sports programs and academic scholarships (1%), and the county fair programs (1%, up to a maximum of $1.53 million annually, adjusted for inflation). Net proceeds from sports betting games are dedicated to match qualifying employer payments to the Public Employees Retirement System Employer Incentive Fund.

There is no fiscal impact for the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) or Oregon Lottery Commission regarding the implementation of this measure. However, the measure changes the state's current lottery revenue allocations. Allocations of net lottery revenues for statutory percentage transfers and legislative dedications from the EDF are typically approved as fixed amounts each session in a lottery allocation bill and are based on lottery resources included in the state revenue forecast produced by DAS Office of Economic Analysis. An increase of Lottery Funds to outdoor school reduces the amount of net lottery revenues available for other purposes and may require corresponding reductions to other lottery allocations, depending on available resources.

Relevant Dates

The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.