SB 1532 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Action Date: 02/13/24

Action: Do pass and refer to Ways and Means by prior reference.

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Anderson, Dembrow, Frederick, Gelser Blouin, Weber

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued **Revenue:** No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/6, 2/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to make a statewide education plan for students who are asylum seekers, refugees, and other types of immigrants, regardless of status. Effective January 1, 2025.

Detailed Summary:

- Directs the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to establish a Student Success Plan for asylum seeker, refugee, or other immigrant students ("plan students") enrolled in early childhood through post-secondary education.
- Requires ODE to form an advisory group. Establishes membership requirements and duties of advisory group.
- Requires Student Success Plan for immigrant and refugee students to address academic disparities, historical
 practices, and educational needs based on culturally responsive best practices. Requires plan to provide
 strategies to meet specified goals.
- Requires ODE to submit a report to the legislature each even-numbered year on the progress of immigrant and refugee students under this Student Success Plan.
- Directs ODE, in consultation with the advisory group, to award grants to the following entities or partnerships thereof:
 - Early Learning Hubs and providers of early learning services,
 - o school districts and education service districts,
 - o post-secondary institutions,
 - o tribal governments, and
 - community-based organizations.
- Disqualifies from grant awards any community-based organization that has a representative on the advisory group described above.
- Requires that grant applicants demonstrate that they meet the eligibility criteria established by SBE rule.
- Amends statues relating to the alignment of the Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Student Success Plan with other student success plans.
- Effective January 1, 2025.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of Oregon's Student Success Plans for other demographic groups
- Unique needs of immigrant, refugee, and asylum seeker populations
- Variety of languages spoken by immigrant students and families
- Value of wraparound services

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

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The legislature has established Student Success Plans for five demographic areas of students: first, American Indian and Alaska Native students in the 1980s; then Black or African American students in 2016; then LGBTQ+ students and Latino and Indigenous students in 2021, and most recently, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students in 2023 (ORS 329.841 to 849). As in Senate Bill 1532, these currently established Student Success Plans, also known as statewide education plans, include advisory groups and grant programs. Oregon does not currently have a statewide education plan for students who are immigrants, refugees, or asylum seekers.

Using data from the U.S. Census Bureau, the <u>Migration Policy Institute estimates</u> Oregon's immigrant population to have been approximately 413,000 in 2022, with the highest numbers in Washington and Multnomah Counties. Refugees and asylum seekers are subsets of the immigrant population. The <u>U.S. Department of Homeland Security</u> defines a refugee as a person outside their country of nationality because of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, or political opinion. A person seeking asylum is a person already present in the U.S. or seeking admission to the U.S. at a port of entry who is applying for refugee status.