House Bill 3173

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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.**

Changes basis of State School Fund transportation grant from percentage of approved transportation costs of school district to amount based on amount received by school district in prior year. Requires school districts to expend amounts received as transportation grant that are in excess of actual transportation costs on increases in student achievement activities and deferred maintenance.

Repeals requirement that school districts must provide transportation for students to school.

Directs State Board of Education to adopt list of vendors who are qualified to contract with school districts to provide transportation services. Requires school districts to contract with listed vendors. Provides exception.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2005.

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT

- 2 Relating to transportation of students; creating new provisions; amending ORS 327.006, 327.013,
- 3 332.405, 338.145, 339.133 and 343.533; repealing ORS 327.033 and 327.043; and declaring an
- 4 emergency.

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

- 6 **SECTION 1.** ORS 327.006 is amended to read:
 - 327.006. As used in ORS 327.006 to 327.133 and 327.731:
 - (1) "Aggregate days membership" means the sum of days present and absent, according to the rules of the State Board of Education, of all resident pupils when school is actually in session during a certain period. The aggregate days membership of kindergarten pupils shall be calculated on the basis of a half-day program.
 - [(2)(a) "Approved transportation costs" means those costs as defined by rule of the State Board of Education and is limited to those costs attributable to transporting or room and board provided in lieu of transporting:
 - [(A) Elementary school students who live at least one mile from school;]
 - [(B) Secondary school students who live at least 1.5 miles from school;]
 - [(C) Any student required to be transported for health or safety reasons, according to supplemental plans from districts that have been approved by the state board identifying students who are required to be transported for health or safety reasons, including special education;]
 - [(D) Preschool children with disabilities requiring transportation for early intervention services provided pursuant to ORS 343.224 and 343.533;]
 - [(E) Students who require payment of room and board in lieu of transportation;]
 - [(F) A student transported from one school or facility to another school or facility when the student attends both schools or facilities during the day or week; and]
- [(G) Students participating in school-sponsored field trips that are extensions of classroom learning experiences.]
- 27 [(b) "Approved transportation costs" does not include the cost of constructing boarding school fa-

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.

cilities.]

- [(3)] (2) "Average daily membership" or "ADM" means the aggregate days membership of a school during a certain period divided by the number of days the school was actually in session during the same period. However, if a district school board adopts a class schedule that operates throughout the year for all or any schools in the district, average daily membership shall be computed by the Department of Education so that the resulting average daily membership will not be higher or lower than if the board had not adopted such schedule.
- [(4)] (3) "Consumer Price Index" means the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers of the Portland, Oregon, Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area, as compiled by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
- [(5)] (4) "Kindergarten" means a kindergarten program that conforms to the standards and rules adopted by the State Board of Education.
- [(6)] (5) "Net operating expenditures" means the sum of expenditures of a school district in kindergarten through grade 12 for administration, instruction, attendance and health services, operation of plant, maintenance of plant, fixed charges and tuition for resident students attending in another district, as determined in accordance with the rules of the State Board of Education, but net operating expenditures does not include transportation, food service, student body activities, community services, capital outlay, debt service or expenses incurred for nonresident students.

[(7)(a)] (6)(a) "Resident pupil" means any pupil:

- (A) Whose legal school residence is within the boundaries of a school district reporting the pupil, if the district is legally responsible for the education of the pupil, except that "resident pupil" does not include a pupil who pays tuition or for whom the parent pays tuition or for whom the district does not pay tuition for placement outside the district; or
- (B) Whose legal residence is not within the boundaries of the district reporting the pupil but attends school in the district with the written consent of the affected school district boards.
- (b) A pupil shall not be considered to be a resident pupil under paragraph (a)(A) of this subsection if the pupil is attending school in another school district pursuant to a contract under ORS 339.125 and in the prior year was considered to be a resident pupil in another school district under paragraph (a)(B) of this subsection. The pupil shall continue to be considered a resident of another school district under paragraph (a)(B) of this subsection.
- (c) A pupil shall not be considered to be a resident pupil under paragraph (a)(B) of this subsection if the pupil is attending school in a school district pursuant to an agreement with another school district under ORS 339.133 and in the prior year was considered to be a resident pupil under paragraph (a)(A) of this subsection because the pupil was attending school in another school district pursuant to a contract under ORS 339.125. The pupil shall continue to be considered a resident pupil under paragraph (a)(A) of this subsection.
 - (d) "Resident pupil" includes a pupil admitted to a school district under ORS 339.115 (7).
- [(8)] (7) "Standard school" means a school meeting the standards set by the rules of the State Board of Education.
- [(9)] (8) "Tax" and "taxes" includes all taxes on property, excluding exempt bonded indebtedness, as those terms are defined in ORS 310.140.
- **SECTION 2.** ORS 327.013, as amended by section 30, chapter 1066, Oregon Laws 1999, section 12, chapter 670, Oregon Laws 2001, sections 20 and 23, chapter 695, Oregon Laws 2001, and sections 10 and 13, chapter 715, Oregon Laws 2003, is amended to read:
 - 327.013. The State School Fund distributions for school districts shall be computed as follows:

- (1) General Purpose Grant = Funding Percentage × Target Grant × District extended ADMw.
- (2) The funding percentage shall be calculated by the Superintendent of Public Instruction to distribute as nearly as practicable the total sum available for distribution of money.
 - (3) Target Grant = Statewide Target per ADMw Grant + Teacher Experience Factor.
 - (4) Statewide Target per ADMw Grant = \$4,500.

- (5) Teacher Experience Factor = \$25 × {District average teacher experience statewide average teacher experience}. "Average teacher experience" means the average, in years, of teaching experience of certified teachers as reported to the Department of Education.
 - (6) District extended ADMw = ADMw or ADMw of the prior year, whichever is greater.
- (7)(a) Weighted average daily membership or ADMw = average daily membership + an additional amount computed as follows:
- (A) 1.0 for each student in average daily membership eligible for special education as a child with disabilities under ORS 343.035, applicable to not to exceed 11 percent of the district's ADM without review and approval of the Department of Education. Children with disabilities eligible for special education in adult local correctional facilities as defined in ORS 169.005 or adult regional correctional facilities as defined in ORS 169.620 may not be included in the calculation of the 11 percent.
- (B) 0.5 for each student in average daily membership eligible for and enrolled in an English as a second language program under ORS 336.079.
- (C) 0.2 for each student in average daily membership enrolled in a union high school district or in an area of a unified school district where the district is only responsible for educating students in grades 9 through 12 in that area.
- (D) -0.1 for each student in average daily membership enrolled in an elementary district operating kindergarten through grade 6 or kindergarten through grade 8 or in an area of a unified school district where the district is only responsible for educating students in kindergarten through grade 8.
 - (E) 0.25 times the sum of the following:
- (i) The number of children 5 to 17 years of age in poverty families in the district, as determined by the Department of Education from a report of the federal Department of Education based on the most recent federal decennial census, as adjusted by the school district's proportion of students in the county receiving free or reduced price lunches under the United States Department of Agriculture's current Income Eligibility Guidelines if the number is higher than the number determined from census data and only if the school district had an average daily membership of 2,500 or less for the 1995-1996 school year, and as further adjusted by the number of students in average daily membership in June of the year of distribution divided by number of students in average daily membership in the district, or its predecessors, in June of the year of the most recent federal decennial census;
- (ii) The number of children in foster homes in the district as determined by the report of the Department of Human Services to the federal Department of Education, "Annual Statistical Report on Children in Foster Homes and Children in Families Receiving AFDC Payments in Excess of the Poverty Income Level," or its successor, for October 31 of the year prior to the year of distribution; and
- (iii) The number of children in the district in state-recognized facilities for neglected and delinquent children, based on information from the Department of Human Services for October 31 of the year prior to the year of distribution.

- (F) An additional amount as determined by ORS 327.077 shall be added to the ADMw for each remote small elementary school and for each small high school in the district.
- (G) All numbers of children used for the computation in this section must reflect any district consolidations that have occurred since the numbers were compiled.
- (b) The total additional weight that shall be assigned to any student in average daily membership in a district, exclusive of students described in paragraph (a)(E) and (F) of this subsection shall not exceed 2.0.
- [(8)(a)] (8) Transportation grant equals[:] the amount the school district received as a transportation grant in the prior year.
- [(A) 70 percent of approved transportation costs for those school districts ranked below the 80th percentile under paragraph (b) of this subsection.]
- [(B) 80 percent of approved transportation costs for those school districts ranked in or above the 80th percentile but below the 90th percentile under paragraph (b) of this subsection.]
- [(C) 90 percent of approved transportation costs for those school districts ranked in or above the 90th percentile under paragraph (b) of this subsection.]
- [(b) Each fiscal year, the Department of Education shall rank school districts based on the approved transportation costs per ADM of each school district, ranking the school district with the highest approved transportation costs per ADM at the top of the order.]
 - (9) Local Revenues are the total of the following:

- (a) The amount of revenue offset against local property taxes as determined by the Department of Revenue under ORS 311.175 (3)(a)(A);
- (b) The amount of property taxes actually received by the district including penalties and interest on taxes;
- (c) The amount of revenue received by the district from the Common School Fund under ORS 327.403 to 327.415;
 - (d) The amount of revenue received by the district from the county school fund;
- (e) The amount of revenue received by the district from the 25 percent of federal forest reserve revenues required to be distributed to schools by ORS 294.060 (1);
- (f) The amount of revenue received by the district from state managed forestlands under ORS 530.115 (1)(b) and (c);
 - (g) Moneys received in lieu of property taxes;
- (h) Federal funds received without specific application by the school district and which are not deemed under federal law to be nonsupplantable;
- (i) Any positive amount obtained by subtracting the operating property taxes actually imposed by the district, based on the rate certified pursuant to ORS 310.060, from the amount that would have been imposed by the district if the district had certified the maximum rate of operating property taxes allowed by law; and
- (j) Any amount distributed to the district in the prior fiscal year under section 4 (3), chapter 695, Oregon Laws 2001, or ORS 327.019 (8).
- (10) Notwithstanding subsection (9) of this section, Local Revenues do not include, if a school district imposes local option taxes pursuant to ORS 280.040 to 280.145, an amount equal to the lesser of:
- (a) The amount of revenue actually received by the district from local option taxes imposed pursuant to ORS 280.040 to 280.145;
 - (b) Fifteen percent of the combined total for the school district of the general purpose grant, the

- 1 transportation grant and the facility grant of the district; or
 - (c) \$750 per district extended ADMw.
 - (11)(a) Facility Grant = 8 percent of total construction costs of new school buildings.
- 4 (b) A school district shall receive a Facility Grant in the distribution year that a new school building is first used.
 - (c) As used in this subsection:

- (A) "New school building" includes new school buildings, adding structures onto existing school buildings and adding premanufactured structures to a school district if those buildings or structures are to be used for instructing students.
 - (B) "Construction costs" does not include costs for land acquisition.

<u>SECTION 3.</u> The amendments to ORS 327.013 by section 2 of this 2005 Act affect State School Fund distributions commencing with the 2005-2006 distribution.

SECTION 4. ORS 327.013, as amended by section 30, chapter 1066, Oregon Laws 1999, section 12, chapter 670, Oregon Laws 2001, sections 20 and 23, chapter 695, Oregon Laws 2001, sections 10 and 13, chapter 715, Oregon Laws 2003, and section 2 of this 2005 Act, is amended to read:

327.013. The State School Fund distributions for school districts shall be computed as follows:

- (1) General Purpose Grant = Funding Percentage × Target Grant × District extended ADMw.
- (2) The funding percentage shall be calculated by the Superintendent of Public Instruction to distribute as nearly as practicable the total sum available for distribution of money.
 - (3) Target Grant = Statewide Target per ADMw Grant + Teacher Experience Factor.
 - (4) Statewide Target per ADMw Grant = \$4,500.
- (5) Teacher Experience Factor = \$25 × {District average teacher experience statewide average teacher experience}. "Average teacher experience" means the average, in years, of teaching experience of certified teachers as reported to the Department of Education.
 - (6) District extended ADMw = ADMw or ADMw of the prior year, whichever is greater.
- (7)(a) Weighted average daily membership or ADMw = average daily membership + an additional amount computed as follows:
- (A) 1.0 for each student in average daily membership eligible for special education as a child with disabilities under ORS 343.035, applicable to not to exceed 11 percent of the district's ADM without review and approval of the Department of Education. Children with disabilities eligible for special education in adult local correctional facilities as defined in ORS 169.005 or adult regional correctional facilities as defined in ORS 169.620 may not be included in the calculation of the 11 percent.
- (B) 0.5 for each student in average daily membership eligible for and enrolled in an English as a second language program under ORS 336.079.
- (C) 0.2 for each student in average daily membership enrolled in a union high school district or in an area of a unified school district where the district is only responsible for educating students in grades 9 through 12 in that area.
- (D) -0.1 for each student in average daily membership enrolled in an elementary district operating kindergarten through grade 6 or kindergarten through grade 8 or in an area of a unified school district where the district is only responsible for educating students in kindergarten through grade 8.
 - (E) 0.25 times the sum of the following:
- (i) The number of children 5 to 17 years of age in poverty families in the district, as determined by the Department of Education from a report of the federal Department of Education based on the

- most recent federal decennial census, as adjusted by the school district's proportion of students in 1 the county receiving free or reduced price lunches under the United States Department of Agricul-2 ture's current Income Eligibility Guidelines if the number is higher than the number determined 3 from census data and only if the school district had an average daily membership of 2,500 or less 4 for the 1995-1996 school year, and as further adjusted by the number of students in average daily 5 membership in June of the year of distribution divided by number of students in average daily 6 membership in the district, or its predecessors, in June of the year of the most recent federal 7 decennial census; 8
 - (ii) The number of children in foster homes in the district as determined by the report of the Department of Human Services to the federal Department of Education, "Annual Statistical Report on Children in Foster Homes and Children in Families Receiving AFDC Payments in Excess of the Poverty Income Level," or its successor, for October 31 of the year prior to the year of distribution; and
 - (iii) The number of children in the district in state-recognized facilities for neglected and delinquent children, based on information from the Department of Human Services for October 31 of the year prior to the year of distribution.
 - (F) An additional amount as determined by ORS 327.077 shall be added to the ADMw for each remote small elementary school and for each small high school in the district.
 - (G) All numbers of children used for the computation in this section must reflect any district consolidations that have occurred since the numbers were compiled.
 - (b) The total additional weight that shall be assigned to any student in average daily membership in a district, exclusive of students described in paragraph (a)(E) and (F) of this subsection shall not exceed 2.0.
 - (8) Transportation grant equals the amount the school district received as a transportation grant in the prior year \times 1.02.
 - (9) Local Revenues are the total of the following:

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- (a) The amount of revenue offset against local property taxes as determined by the Department of Revenue under ORS 311.175 (3)(a)(A);
- 29 (b) The amount of property taxes actually received by the district including penalties and in-30 terest on taxes;
 - (c) The amount of revenue received by the district from the Common School Fund under ORS 327.403 to 327.415;
 - (d) The amount of revenue received by the district from the county school fund;
 - (e) The amount of revenue received by the district from the 25 percent of federal forest reserve revenues required to be distributed to schools by ORS 294.060 (1);
 - (f) The amount of revenue received by the district from state managed forestlands under ORS 530.115 (1)(b) and (c);
 - (g) Moneys received in lieu of property taxes;
 - (h) Federal funds received without specific application by the school district and which are not deemed under federal law to be nonsupplantable;
 - (i) Any positive amount obtained by subtracting the operating property taxes actually imposed by the district, based on the rate certified pursuant to ORS 310.060, from the amount that would have been imposed by the district if the district had certified the maximum rate of operating property taxes allowed by law; and
 - (j) Any amount distributed to the district in the prior fiscal year under section 4 (3), chapter

1 695, Oregon Laws 2001, or ORS 327.019 (8).

- (10) Notwithstanding subsection (9) of this section, Local Revenues do not include, if a school district imposes local option taxes pursuant to ORS 280.040 to 280.145, an amount equal to the lesser of:
- (a) The amount of revenue actually received by the district from local option taxes imposed pursuant to ORS 280.040 to 280.145;
- (b) Fifteen percent of the combined total for the school district of the general purpose grant, the transportation grant and the facility grant of the district; or
 - (c) \$750 per district extended ADMw.
- (11)(a) Facility Grant = 8 percent of total construction costs of new school buildings.
- (b) A school district shall receive a Facility Grant in the distribution year that a new school building is first used.
 - (c) As used in this subsection:
 - (A) "New school building" includes new school buildings, adding structures onto existing school buildings and adding premanufactured structures to a school district if those buildings or structures are to be used for instructing students.
 - (B) "Construction costs" does not include costs for land acquisition.
- <u>SECTION 5.</u> The amendments to ORS 327.013 by section 4 of this 2005 Act affect State School Fund distributions commencing with the 2006-2007 distribution.
 - <u>SECTION 6.</u> The amendments to ORS 327.013 by section 4 of this 2005 Act become operative on July 1, 2006.
 - **SECTION 7.** ORS 332.405 is amended to read:
 - 332.405. (1) The district school board shall provide transportation for pupils or combinations of pupils and other persons to and from school-related activities where required by law or when considered advisable by the board.
 - (2) The board may furnish board and room for pupils in lieu of transportation when reasonable board and room can be provided at equal or less expense than transportation. The board may also provide board and room in a facility that existed on July 1, 1998, or a replacement facility for that facility, for pupils attending a district school through an interdistrict agreement described in ORS $327.006 \ [(7)(a)(B)] \ (6)(a)(B)$ or through a power of attorney authorized under ORS $109.056 \ (2)$. This subsection does not apply to a pupil who attends a district school through a power of attorney and who is a foreign exchange student enrolled in a school under a cultural exchange program.
 - (3) The transportation costs or expenses for board and room shall be paid from funds available to the district for that purpose.
 - (4) The district school board may expend district funds to improve or provide for pedestrian facilities off district property if the board finds that the expenditure reduces transportation costs of the district and enhances the safety of pupils going to and from schools of the district.

SECTION 8. ORS 338.145 is amended to read:

- 338.145. (1) [The public charter school shall be responsible for providing transportation to students who reside within the school district and who attend the public charter school. The] A public charter school may negotiate with a school district for the provision of transportation to students attending the public charter school.
- (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, the school district within which the public charter school is located shall [be responsible for the] **provide** transportation [of] **to** students attending the public charter school [pursuant to ORS 327.043] in the same manner as students at-

- tending nonchartered public schools if the student is a resident of the school district. However, a school district may not be required to add or extend existing bus routes or other transportation services pursuant to this subsection.
- (3) Students who attend public charter schools and who reside outside of the school district may use existing bus routes and transportation services of the school district in which a public charter school is located.
- [(4) Any transportation costs incurred by a school district under this section shall be considered approved transportation costs for purposes of ORS 327.013 in the same manner as transportation costs incurred by the school district for transporting students who attend nonchartered public schools are considered approved transportation costs for purposes of ORS 327.013.]

SECTION 9. ORS 339.133 is amended to read:

- 339.133. (1) Except as provided in subsection (3), (4) or (6) of this section, children between the ages of 4 and 18 shall be considered resident for school purposes in the school district in which their parents, guardians or persons in parental relationship to them reside.
- (2) Nonemancipated individuals between the ages of 4 and 18 living outside the geographic area of the school district for such reasons as attending college, military service, hospital confinement or employment away from home shall be considered resident in the district in which their parents, guardians or persons in parental relationship to them reside.
- (3) Those individuals considered legally emancipated from their parents shall be considered resident in the district in which they actually reside, irrespective of the residence of their parents, guardians or persons in parental relationship.
- (4) Children placed by public or private agencies who are living in substitute care programs licensed, certified or approved shall be considered resident in the school district in which they reside by placement of the public or private agency.
- (5) Persons living temporarily in a school district for the primary purpose of attending a district school shall not be considered legally resident of the district in which they are living temporarily, but shall be considered resident in the district in which they, their parents, guardians or persons in parental relationship to them maintain residency.
- (6) Except as provided in ORS 327.006 [(7)] (6) and 335.090, persons whose legal residence is not within the district but who attend school in the district with the written consent of the affected district school boards shall be considered to be residents of the district in which the person attends school for purposes of the receipt by that district of State School Fund moneys for the person.
- (7) For the purposes of subsection (4) of this section, "substitute care program" means family foster care, family group home care, parole foster care, family shelter care, adolescent shelter care and professional group care.

SECTION 10. ORS 343.533 is amended to read:

- 343.533. (1) The Department of Education [shall] **may** not bill a resident school district for a child receiving services under this section even if the child is served by a county or regional program otherwise subject to ORS 343.243.
- (2) The resident school district shall provide transportation service to preschool children with disabilities, as defined in ORS 343.035, age three until the age of eligibility for kindergarten, if such service is determined to be a related service and, as required, to children from birth to three years of age, enrolled in programs under ORS 339.185, 343.035, 343.041, 343.055, 343.065, 343.157 and 343.455 to 343.534[, and the district may include those costs in its claims for transportation costs reimbursement by the state. No state agency is required to pay transportation other than the claims on

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1 the State School Fund].

SECTION 11. Section 12 of this 2005 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 327.006 to 327.133.

SECTION 12. Any school district that has actual transportation costs that are less than the amount received by the school district as a transportation grant from the State School Fund shall expend the amount that is equal to the difference between the amount of the transportation grant received and the actual costs to the school district for transportation of students on deferred maintenance expenses or on activities that relate to increases in student achievement, as listed in ORS 327.297.

<u>SECTION 13.</u> (1) The State Board of Education shall adopt a list of vendors who are qualified to contract with school districts to provide transportation services.

- (2) A school district that contracts with a vendor to provide transportation services to students may contract only with a vendor that is on the list adopted by the board under subsection (1) of this section.
- (3) Notwithstanding subsection (2) of this section, a school district may request from the board a waiver of the requirements of subsection (2) of this section if the school district contracts with a local government for the use of the public transportation system of the local government. The board may grant the waiver to the school district if the board finds that it is cost-effective for the school district to contract with the local government.

<u>SECTION 14.</u> Section 13 of this 2005 Act applies to contracts entered into by school districts on or after January 1, 2006.

SECTION 15. ORS 327.033 and 327.043 are repealed.

SECTION 16. This 2005 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2005 Act takes effect July 1, 2005.