

Measure 99

Explanatory Statement

Ballot Measure 99 requires a portion of lottery-related moneys to be dedicated for the purpose of providing every student in fifth or sixth grade in this state with the opportunity to attend a week-long outdoor school program or an equivalent outdoor education experience that reflects local community needs.

Historically, "Outdoor School" is a week-long residential field science program designed to give students the opportunity to study natural sciences and the interrelationship of nature, natural resources, economic development, and career opportunities in Oregon in collaboration with students from other schools. Outdoor school programs have been offered throughout the state since the 1950's. Due to budget constraints, many school districts have either shortened the length of outdoor school or eliminated it altogether.

During the 2015 session, the Oregon Legislative Assembly passed Senate Bill 439, a bill authorizing the Oregon State University Extension Service to support, administer, and fund outdoor school programs throughout the state. Under Senate Bill 439, grants would be made to local school districts and education service districts consistent with the priorities outlined in the bill. However, the Legislative Assembly provided no funding for the program.

The measure establishes the Outdoor School Education Fund for the purpose of receiving moneys made available under the measure. Moneys in the fund are appropriated to the Oregon State University Extension Service to support, administer and fund outdoor education programs as authorized by the Legislative Assembly in Senate Bill 439.

The measure authorizes the transfer of no more than \$22 million annually from the Oregon State Lottery Fund to the Administrative Services Economic Development Fund. The minimum amount will be adjusted each year based on the Consumer Price Index.

The measure prohibits any reductions in the amounts of lottery proceeds that are constitutionally dedicated to education or to the restoration and preservation of parks, beaches, watersheds and native fish and wildlife.

Committee Member Name	Appointed By
Margaret Olney	Chief Petitioners
Paige Richardson	Chief Petitioners
Pamela Fitzsimmons	Secretary of State
Craig Pope	Secretary of State
Ginny Lang	Members of the Committee