

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

81st Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2021 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

Measure: HB 2919 A

*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*

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Date: 03/30/2021

Measure Description:

Requires each public university and community college to prominently display total costs of all required course materials and fees for no less than 75 percent of total courses offered by public university or community college.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC), Community Colleges, Public Universities

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure are indeterminate at this time - See explanatory analysis.

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

See Analysis.

Analysis: This measure requires each public university and community college to prominently display total costs of all required course materials and fees for no less than 75 percent of total courses offered by public university or community college. The measure specifies the requirements for display of affected courses and criteria for institutions to withhold course information and aligns provisions with federal law. The Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) is directed to consult with stakeholders and interested parties and adopt by rule a list of materials exempt requirement and establish metrics to measure compliance.

Initially, information submitted by Oregon’s public universities stated that the impact ranged from \$5,000 at one university to \$359,000 at another. After further discussions, the public universities now find the fiscal impact to be minimal. There is still concern that costs may be incurred by the bookstores, some operated directly by the public university while others are operated by a third-party entity. Each institution indicated the potential need for information system related work. Concern was also expressed about the costs of collecting information on non-textbook items. Depending on the actual costs to the public universities/bookstores, there could be increases in textbook costs in the future.

The Community Colleges report a minimal fiscal impact primarily due to using in-house bookstores.