

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

**FISCAL:** Fiscal statement issued

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**Action:** Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

**Vote:** 4 - 0 - 1

**Yeas:** Kruse, Metsger, Morse, Walker

**Nays:** 0

**Exc.:** Westlund

**Prepared By:** Dana Richardson, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 2/20, 2/23, 3/15

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Replaces Oregon Opportunity Grants with Oregon Shared Responsibility Opportunity Grants administered by the Oregon Student Assistance Commission. Changes method of determining cost of education. Excludes Oregon Health and Science University from average cost of education calculation. Authorizes commission to determine student, family, federal, and state share of cost of education. Specifies that loans are not considered in determining student share for community college students. Deletes intent language to empower and reward students who have earned Certificate of Initial Mastery. Applies to qualified students who attend eligible institutions for the first time on or after July 1, 2008 or who did not continuously attend an eligible institution before the 2008-09 academic year or who attend an eligible institution on or after July 1, 2011. Allows eligible students currently attending an eligible institution to receive grant amount under current law or under this Act, whichever is greater.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Debt burdens upon graduation
- Unused Oregon Opportunity Grant funds
- Stability of State funding, tax, and revenue structure
- Amount of Pell grants
- Time and funds needed to ramp up program
- Relationship to ASPIRE program
- Length of time needed to graduate

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Removes Oregon Health and Science University in determining average cost of education. Removes loans from student share for community college students.

**BACKGROUND:** In 1965, an Oregon student could work approximately half-time at a minimum wage job year-round and pay for a year at a public university. In 2005, that student would have to work 28 hours a week to afford to attend a community college, 49 hours a week to afford to attend a public 4-year university, or 111 hours a week to afford to attend an independent university, year-round, to do the same. The proposed Shared Responsibility Opportunity Grants assume that the student bears the most significant responsibility for paying for college whether it is through taking out loans, working, or finding other sources for grants or scholarships. The contributions of the student's family, the federal government, and the state are based on the resources it takes to bridge the student's contribution to the total cost of education.

3/22/2007 4:17:00 PM

*This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.*