

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 8 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Conger, Doherty, Esquivel, Hoyle, Johnson, Matthews, Kennemer, Schaufler

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Theresa Van Winkle, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Aligns current statutes related to apprenticeship to revised regulations adopted by the United States Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration. Declares an emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Usage of private funds for funding apprenticeship programs
- Uniqueness of California’s dual state and federal apprenticeship program
- Fallout of having apprenticeship programs administered at the federal level
- Authority level of the state’s Apprenticeship and Training Council
- Effect from shortening the timeframe for registering new apprenticeship agreements

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: States that administer registered apprenticeship programs, such as Oregon, do such under an agreement with the United States Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration (USDOL, ETA). In December 2008, revised apprenticeships were implemented at the federal level to update labor standards, policies and procedures for the registration, cancellation, and deregulation of apprenticeship programs, apprenticeship agreements, and administering the National Apprenticeship System. Approved state apprenticeship agencies (SAA) were given until December 29, 2010 to make conforming changes to state law, regulations and policies in order to maintain continued recognition. Due to difficulties experienced by many states in conforming to the new requirements, states were able to file for an extension of the implementation date. Oregon was granted an extension in December 2010.

House Bill 2034 aligns current statutes related to apprenticeship by making the following conforming amendments to the state’s apprenticeship law: defining “journey worker” and deleting references to “journeyman;” reducing the timeline for registering new apprenticeship agreements from the current 90-day timeframe to 45 days; establishing a specific probationary period for all apprentices to the shorter timeframe of either up to one year or 25 percent of the program’s length; allowing the transfer of apprentices between programs for reasons such as relocating to another geographic location; redefining the roles and responsibilities of the apprenticeship agency (Bureau of Labor and Industries Apprenticeship and Training Division) and the State Apprenticeship Council; increasing coordination and links between state apprenticeship programs and the State Workforce Investment Board; clarifying reciprocal programs of apprentices and apprenticeship programs and standards; and implementing program performance standards that emphasize quality performance.

If Oregon does not amend its apprenticeship administration statutes and rules to conform to the new federal regulations, the USDOL will not recognize the state’s apprenticeship agreement, and enforcement of apprenticeship standards and programs would revert to the USDOL.

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