

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

**FISCAL:** Fiscal statement issued

---

<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended, Be Printed Engrossed, and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference
<b>Vote:</b>	8 - 0 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Conger, Dembrow, Frederick, Huffman, Komp, Parrish, Gelser, Wingard
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Victoria Cox, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	<i>Subcommittee:</i> 2/17, 3/15; <i>Full:</i> 4/11

---

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Authorizes Oregon Student Assistance Commission to award Oregon Roadmap to Language Excellence Scholarship to graduates of Oregon high schools attending post-secondary institutions in the state. Specifies initial Scholarship of \$2,000 awarded by Commission to qualified students, with maximum of \$8,000 available over four academic years with measurable gain in language proficiency. Grants reduced Scholarship of \$500, less amount received in previous academic year, for students not demonstrating measurable gain, and prohibits awarding reduced Scholarship in consecutive academic years. Requires Commission to adopt rules governing scholarship administration, language standards, assessment methods, and waiver requirements for student leave of absence.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Goals of Oregon Roadmap for English and second language proficiencies
- Student accountability and proficiency
- Commission regulation and funding streams
- Role of Commission in administering scholarship programs
- Possible expansion to returning students

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Revises high school graduation requirement. Limits use of scholarship to eligible post-secondary institutions in Oregon. Directs Commission to adopt rules allowing waiver of requirement that scholarship is awarded in consecutive years for students with approved leave of absence. Removes language that establishes Oregon Roadmap to Language Excellence Fund.

**BACKGROUND:** Previously introduced in 2009 as House Bill 2756, House Bill 2221-A amends ORS 348.180 and 438.570 by establishing the Scholarship program, and providing renewable scholarship opportunities of up to \$2,000 per year to students demonstrating proficiency in reading, writing and speaking in a language other than English. The 2009 measure has been expanded to provide that eligible languages must be in a natural, human-based language, excluding computer-based languages, musical notation and Esperanto. The strategic vision of the Oregon Roadmap to Language Excellence is to “create conditions that will allow every Oregon graduate to be professionally proficient in English and functionally proficient in another language by 2025.”