

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass with amendments to the A-Engrossed Measure. (Printed B-Engrossed)

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Bonamici, George, Morse, Shields, Hass

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Linda Lindholm, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/26, 5/5

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Clarifies requirements for obtaining services from Oregon Career Readiness Certification program. Changes name of program from Oregon Career Readiness Certification Program to National Career Readiness Certification (NCRC). Requires program to inform school districts, community colleges and community college service districts about Career Readiness Certification Program. Requires community colleges and districts to report on student use of program to Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development (CCWD). Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Certification of specific skill levels and workforce readiness
- Employer and job candidate benefits
- National adoption of NCRC
- Funding from Federal Workforce Investment Act
- Reporting requirements for community colleges and districts

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Removes education service districts from reporting requirements.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon Career Readiness Certification Program verifies foundational skills of applied math, reading for information and locating information. The certification data is used by employers, employees and job applicants as a uniform measure of key workplace skills. Current statutes limit the scope of CCWD administrative rules and restrict the program to Oregon residents. House Bill 2353-B authorizes CCWD to make accommodations for students commuting to Oregon for employment.

The measure adds a service of providing information to school districts, community colleges and community college service districts about the national Career Readiness Certificate, assessments, targeted instruction and remedial skills training available through the program. By September 1st of each year, these education entities are required to report to CCWD on the rate of participation and total number of students enrolled who utilize the services. CCWD's report to the appropriate interim legislative committee shall include a summary of the information required by this act.