

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Joint Ways and Means by prior reference

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Bonamici, George, Morse, Shields, Hass

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Linda Lindholm, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/1, 2/3, 2/8, 2/15

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Establishes grant program relating to accelerated college credit programs for college credit to be administered by the Department of Education (DOE). Directs Joint Boards of Education to develop statewide standards for dual credit programs and state secondary and tertiary schools to implement the standards and report on students enrolled in dual credit programs. Establishes the Accelerated College Credit Account (ACCA). Appropriates moneys from the General Fund to the ACCA. Continuously appropriates moneys in the ACCA to the Department of Education. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2011.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- State higher education mission and numerical goals
- Encouragement of accelerated advanced learning
- Incentive and momentum for attainment of higher education
- Accommodation of talented and gifted students and home-schooled children
- Department of Education staff and resources impact
- DOE federal grant concerns

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Appropriates \$250,000 out of General Fund for the Accelerated College Credit Account beginning July 1, 201. Excludes student test and examination fees as an allowable Accelerated College Credit Account expenditure, but provides for grant expenditures on classroom supplies in accelerated college credit programs.

BACKGROUND: Currently, ORS 341.450 states that every community college district shall encourage high school students to start early on a college education by implementing two-plus-two and dual credit programs and shall make at least one such program available; however school districts can apply for and be granted waivers from the Department of Education. Twenty-nine states have adopted quality standards for providers of dual and concurrent enrollment programs to advance seamless education through secondary and post secondary collaborations, according to a National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships 2010 report.

SB 254A creates oversight systems and a grant program to encourage and facilitate accelerated college credit programs, including dual credit, two-plus-two, advanced placement and International Baccalaureate programs. The measure requires the Department of Education to administer the grant program, supply training for teachers who will provide instruction in accelerated college credit programs at the secondary school and award grant funds to assist students in paying for college credits. The Accelerated College Credit Account is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. Accelerated College Credit Account moneys and interests are appropriated to the Department of Education to fund the program grants. The Joint Boards of Education are directed to develop statewide standards for the dual credit programs.

2/21/2011 4:08:00 PM

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