

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 3 - 2 - 0

Yeas: Bonamici, Dingfelder, Prozanski

Nays: Kruse, Whitsett

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Cheyenne Ross, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 3/24, 4/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows State Board of Higher Education (Board) to authorize university under its control to establish police department and employ police officers. Permits such department and officers to enforce Board's or university's administrative rules and policies in addition to criminal laws. Requires university and police department to establish process to address policing grievances. Permits Board to make agreement, or to authorize university to make agreement with other entities for mutual aid. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Specialized campus community environments, high growth
- Use of municipal police department resources, duplication of efforts
- Support for first responders, uniformity of training and certification
- Safety of university neighborhoods, students, faculty and staff
- Officer safety
- Student concern about presence of law enforcement
- University influence over enforcement decisions
- Community policing model considered best practice

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Requires university and police department to establish process to address policing grievances.

BACKGROUND: Although many public safety employees of universities are experienced law enforcement officers, they are not currently required to be state-certified as police officers. Senate Bill 405A would permit universities to develop on-campus police agencies that employ fully certified officers, with the same training and authority as other police agencies.