

A-Engrossed
House Bill 2353

Ordered by the House March 31
Including House Amendments dated March 31

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Business and Labor)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Clarifies requirements for obtaining services from the Oregon Career Readiness Certification Program. Changes name of program. **Requires program to inform school districts, education service districts, community colleges and community college service districts about program. Requires community colleges and districts to report on student use of program to Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development.**

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to the Oregon Career Readiness Certification Program; amending ORS 660.343; and de-
3 claring an emergency.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 660.343 is amended to read:

6 660.343. (1) There is created in the Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Devel-
7 opment the Oregon **National** Career Readiness Certification Program to certify the workplace and
8 college readiness skills of Oregonians and to better prepare Oregonians for continued education and
9 workforce training, successful employment and career advancement in a demand-driven, skills-based
10 economy.

11 (2) Program services may be offered through public high schools, community colleges, local and
12 regional career centers, education service districts and any other institutions determined to be ap-
13 propriate by the department **to residents of Oregon and to employees of businesses located in**
14 **Oregon.**

15 (3) Services provided by the program shall include, but are not limited to:

16 (a) An assessment process that identifies the proficiency level of program participants in work-
17 ready skills including, but not limited to, reading, applied mathematics, locating information and any
18 additional skills determined by the department to be necessary to meet business and industry skill
19 demands;

20 (b) Targeted instruction and remedial skills training to provide work-ready skills in which pro-
21 gram participants are not proficient, as determined by the assessment process described in para-
22 graph (a) of this subsection, and that have been identified by the department as work-ready skills
23 required by local employers;

24 (c) Issuance of a **National** Career Readiness Certificate to program participants who demon-
25 strate proficiency in work-ready skills, as determined by the assessment process described in para-

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 graph (a) of this subsection, and who satisfy any other requirements for certification adopted by the
2 department by rule; *[and]*

3 **(d) Providing information to school districts, education service districts, community col-**
4 **leges and community college service districts about the National Career Readiness Certif-**
5 **icate and the assessments, targeted instruction and remedial skills training available through**
6 **the program; and**

7 *[(d)]* (e) An online database that:

8 (A) Serves as the repository for **National** Career Readiness Certificate attainment data.

9 (B) Provides online access to program data that enables employers to determine the work skill
10 proficiency level of individual program participants and to locate certified individuals on a statewide
11 or regional basis.

12 (C) Provides individual program participants the opportunity for career exploration, continuing
13 education, job readiness practice and job searches.

14 (D) Provides individual program participants the opportunity to opt out of the database in ac-
15 cordance with rules adopted by the department.

16 (4) The Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development, after consultation with
17 the State Workforce Investment Board, the Department of Education and the State Board of Edu-
18 cation, shall adopt rules for the implementation and administration of the program created under
19 subsection (1) of this section.

20 **(5) By September 1 of each year, school districts, education service districts, community**
21 **colleges and community college service districts shall report to the Department of Commu-**
22 **nity Colleges and Workforce Development the rate of participation in and the total number**
23 **of students enrolled in the district or community college who utilized the services provided**
24 **by the program in the most recently concluded school year.**

25 *[(5)]* (6) The Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development shall submit a re-
26 port on program outcomes and recommendations for improving and funding the program to the ap-
27 propriate interim legislative committees and to the Governor by December 1 of each year. **The**
28 **report shall include a summary of the information required under subsection (5) of this**
29 **section.**

30 **SECTION 2. This 2011 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
31 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2011 Act takes effect**
32 **on its passage.**

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