

House Bill 3356

Sponsored by Representative NOLAN, Senator WINTERS; Representative DOHERTY, Senator NELSON

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 **as introduced**.

Prohibits community college or institution of higher education from placing academic hold on student registration if student is within six credits of graduating and student agrees to payment plan.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to higher education student debt to institutions; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) A student at a community college in this state or an institution of higher education listed in ORS 352.002 may not have an academic hold placed on the student's registration by the community college or institution due to money owed the community college or institution if:

(a) The student needs six or fewer units or credits to complete all requirements for an associate degree at a community college or a baccalaureate degree at an institution of higher education; and

(b) The student has agreed to a payment plan with the community college or institution of higher education, or the Department of Revenue on behalf of the community college or institution, allowing payment of the money owed the community college or institution.

(2)(a) The Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development shall adopt rules specifying the form and content of a payment plan between a student and a community college required under subsection (1)(b) of this section. The payment plan shall include terms regarding the time for payment and the reduction or elimination of interest and fines.

(b) The State Board of Higher Education shall adopt rules specifying the form and content of a payment plan between a student and an institution of higher education required under subsection (1)(b) of this section. The payment plan shall include terms regarding the time for payment and the reduction or elimination of interest and fines.

SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2011 Act first applies to the 2011-2012 academic year.

SECTION 3. This 2011 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2011 Act takes effect on its passage.

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.