

HOUSE BILL 4061-4: Special Committee on University Governance

- Creates 10-person Special Committee on University Governance to develop legislation allowing the creation of individual boards at public universities and setting their potential powers and authority, membership, and appointment process.
- The Special Committee will also recommend potential statewide board consolidation (among OEIB, SBHE, HECC, and others)
- 4 Representatives, 4 Senators, 2 from the OEIB
- The process will be transparent, consultative, and fact-driven, and the Committee will be bound by the following principles:
 - Recognize the potential benefit of individual university boards.
 - Ensure that the creation of a local board is the result of a careful analysis of the costs and benefits of such action.
 - If a local board is created, ensure that students, faculty and other university staff will be represented on the board.
 - Mitigate potential adverse impacts upon other public universities.
 - Ensure that the public mission of Oregon's public universities, including access and affordability for residents of this state, is maintained and enhanced.
- The plan for implementing individual boards will consider the following specific issues:
 - Hiring, evaluation and dismissal of university presidents;
 - Tuition and fees for resident and nonresident students;
 - In consultation with the Treasurer's office, financial management, including the issuance of bonds;
 - Personnel policies for faculty and staff;
 - Achievement compacts with the Oregon Education Investment Board or the Higher Education Coordinating Commission;
 - Acquisition, management and disposal of real, personal and intangible property;
 - Capital projects prioritization and authorization;
 - Legal affairs and advocacy with the state;
 - Coordination with the State Board of Higher Education or other systemwide governing body on degree programs, colleges and schools within each university; and
 - Coordination with other universities in the Oregon University System and the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to mitigate potential adverse impacts of new academic programs.
- The Committee will follow an aggressive work plan:
 - First meeting no later than April 15, 2012
 - First draft of its recommendations due Aug. 15, 2012
 - Feedback sought from stakeholders around the state
 - Presentation during September legislative days
 - Final report due Nov. 1, 2012
- Staffing by Legislative Committee Services