

# House Bill 4056

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

## 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**.

Establishes Task Force on STEM Access and Success for purpose of encouraging students to study science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Sunsetts task force on date of convening of 2013 regular session of Legislative Assembly.

Establishes STEM Fund for purpose of providing scholarships to encourage students to study science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to the Task Force on STEM Access and Success; appropriating money; and declaring an  
3 emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on STEM Access and Success is established for the**  
6 **purpose of encouraging students to study science, technology, engineering and mathematics.**

7 **(2) The task force shall consist of seven members appointed as follows:**

8 **(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint one member from among the members of**  
9 **the Senate.**

10 **(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member from among**  
11 **the members of the House of Representatives.**

12 **(c) The Governor shall appoint the following five members:**

13 **(A) One member who represents industry involved in science, technology, engineering or**  
14 **mathematics;**

15 **(B) One member who represents kindergarten through grade 12 education;**

16 **(C) One member who represents post-secondary education;**

17 **(D) One member who represents the Oregon Student Access Commission; and**

18 **(E) One member who represents the Engineering and Technology Industry Council.**

19 **(3) The task force shall:**

20 **(a) Identify obstacles to success for students in the areas of science, technology, engi-**  
21 **neering and mathematics and recommend strategies for removing those obstacles;**

22 **(b) Identify opportunities for improving coordination among existing programs for stu-**  
23 **dents involving science, technology, engineering and mathematics;**

24 **(c) Assess the status of education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics**  
25 **at the public and private kindergarten through grade 12 schools and post-secondary schools**  
26 **of this state;**

27 **(d) Identify existing and recommend new programs that build student skills in science,**  
28 **technology, engineering and mathematics and that encourage students to become involved**

**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 in careers related to science, technology, engineering and mathematics;

2 (e) Recommend strategies that allow students in low-income and underrepresented pop-  
3 ulations to have access to, and success in, science, technology, engineering and mathematics;

4 (f) Assess and make recommendations for improving the way that students transition  
5 from high school to post-secondary school and from community college to public or private  
6 university, with emphasis on transitioning skills and learning related to science, technology,  
7 engineering and mathematics;

8 (g) Identify strategies for encouraging mentorships and internships in, and partnerships  
9 with, industries involved in science, technology, engineering and mathematics;

10 (h) Identify existing and recommend new funding sources to support programs for stu-  
11 dents in science, technology, engineering and mathematics and to provide scholarships that  
12 attract students to, and retain students in, science, technology, engineering and mathemat-  
13 ics; and

14 (i) Find ways to engage families and communities in the support of science, technology,  
15 engineering and mathematics education.

16 (4) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the  
17 transaction of business.

18 (5) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting  
19 members of the task force.

20 (6) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

21 (7) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-  
22 ment to become immediately effective.

23 (8) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson  
24 or of a majority of the voting members of the task force.

25 (9) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

26 (10) The task force shall submit a report, and may include recommendations for legis-  
27 lation, to the interim legislative committees on education no later than October 1, 2012.

28 (11) The Legislative Administration Committee shall provide staff support to the task  
29 force.

30 (12) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not  
31 entitled to compensation, but may be reimbursed for actual and necessary travel and other  
32 expenses incurred by them in the performance of their official duties in the manner and  
33 amounts provided for in ORS 292.495. Claims for expenses incurred in performing functions  
34 of the task force shall be paid out of funds appropriated to the Legislative Administration  
35 Committee.

36 (13) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist  
37 the task force in the performance of its duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating  
38 to confidentiality, to furnish such information and advice as the members of the task force  
39 consider necessary to perform their duties.

40 **SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this 2012 Act is repealed on the date of the convening of the 2013  
41 regular session of the Legislative Assembly as specified in ORS 171.010.

42 **SECTION 3.** (1) The STEM Fund is established in the State Treasury, separate and dis-  
43 tinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the STEM Fund shall be credited to the  
44 fund. Moneys in the STEM Fund are continuously appropriated to the Oregon Student Access  
45 Commission for the purpose of providing scholarships to students to encourage study in

1 **science, technology, engineering and mathematics.**

2 **(2) The Oregon Student Access Commission may accept grants, donations, contributions**  
3 **or gifts from any source for deposit in the STEM Fund.**

4 **SECTION 4. This 2012 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**  
5 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2012 Act takes effect**  
6 **on passage.**

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