



Representative Michael Dembrow

House District 45 (NE Portland, Maywood Park & Parkrose)

(503) 986-1445

H-487

HB 3079 with -B6 amendment

Adverse Impact "gut and stuff"

Background on HB 3079:

The introduced version of HB 3079 focused on reporting by institutions of higher education on measures such as on-time graduation rate, total program costs, loan default rates, and other metrics to provide transparency to students and the public on the relative value of attending a program of study.

Following a legislative workgroup involving stakeholders from the public, private for-profit and private non-profit sectors of higher education, stakeholders and the bill sponsors agreed that the best path forward was not to move 3079 this session in its current form. Instead, an interim workgroup will come up with the best possible policy for the 2014 session.

Why we need the -B6 amendment:

HB 3079 is now being used as a vehicle to fix an issue with a bill that has already passed both chambers this session. HB 3341 was intended to remove the "adverse impact" process from statute that allows for-profit career colleges to block the ability of public institutions to start new, in-demand programs.

HB 3341 passed the Senate 21-7 after the Senate Education policy committee adopted an amendment that was intended to simply remove the statutory language around adverse impact. The House concurred in the changes earlier this month on a 41-19 vote.

Unfortunately, the senate amendments to 3341 were incorrectly drafted, and removed the wrong section of statute. The actual language of 3341 as passed does not accomplish what the bill's summary says it does:

"Repeals requirement that community colleges enter into agreement with for-profit institutions of higher education before implementing potentially duplicative new post-secondary programs."

The -B6 amendment to HB 3079 accomplishes what we believed we were doing when we passed HB 3341 earlier this session. It will make the bill consistent with the above summary.

For more information, contact Rep. Dembrow's office at 6-1445.