

**PRELIMINARY** STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

House Committee on Human Services and Housing

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact  
**FISCAL:** Minimal fiscal impact  
**SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:**

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**Action:**

**Vote:**

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

**Prepared By:** Regina Wilson, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 3/4

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Modifies the definition of “former foster child” to reflect federal standard for higher education grants, tuition waivers and scholarship purposes.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

**BACKGROUND:** Definitions play a significant role in determining post-secondary financial aid eligibility for youth who may be transitioning from dependents to independent adults. To resolve definition questions, provisions of the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (2009) added emancipated minor and being in a legal guardianship to the definition of independent student. It also modified “orphan” or “ward of the court” until age 18 to “orphan” or “ward of the court” *or in foster care at any time on or after 13 years of age*. House Bill 2095 updates the definition of “former foster child” in Oregon statute to federal standard.