

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by Prior Reference
Vote:	4 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Knopp, Kruse, Roblan, Hass
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Beyer
Prepared By:	Richard Donovan, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/5, 2/21, 2/26, 3/12, 4/2, 4/11, 4/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Mandates distribution of funds as prescribed in measure. Requires Oregon Student Access Commission to administer scholarship fund related to accelerated college credit programs. Directs Department of Education to administer program to enable consortia to provide resources for accelerated college credit programs. Mandates that Oregon Education Investment Board design and implement programs for strategic investments to expand accelerated credit programs, and develop timelines, performance measures and other requirements related to data collection. Appropriates funds for those investments, for distribution to Oregon Student Access Commission and Department of Education. Establishes Accelerated Learning Committee, and directs committee to report to Legislature no later than October 1, 2014. Details types of credits that may be required beyond 24 total credit hours. Requires community college district to collaborate with school districts to provide accelerated college credit programs. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- College credit vs. High School credit language; “credit” vs. “quarter-credit” language
- Teacher certification/qualification concerns, particularly in rural areas
- Option to require college-level credits for high school graduation
- Desire for further input, study in this area; idea of a larger-scale plan in future legislative session
- Potential requirement of both Democrat and Republican representation on committee
- Allocation of funds as in keeping with policy goals of measure
- Potential for 24 credit language to enable and cause expanded enrollment in accelerated credit courses

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces measure.

BACKGROUND: Recent legislative actions in the area of accelerated credit opportunities stems from Senate Bill 253 (2011), which established statutory requirements, including achievement of the following numerical goals by 2025: 40 percent of adult Oregonians earn a bachelor’s degree or higher; 40 percent of adult Oregonians earn an associate’s degree or post-secondary credential; 20 percent of adult Oregonians earn a high school diploma or equivalent thereof. House Bill 3601 (2011) took a further step towards targeting accelerated credit programs by, among other things, modifying the waiver process for participation in Expanded Options Programs to ensure participation by eligible at-risk students.