

A-Engrossed
House Bill 2970

Ordered by the House April 1
Including House Amendments dated April 1

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

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.

Directs Higher Education Coordinating Commission to develop standards related to requirements for associate transfer degree [*in specific areas of study, including business and engineering*].

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to associate transfer degrees; amending ORS 341.430.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 341.430, as amended by section 11, chapter 104, Oregon Laws 2012, is
5 amended to read:

6 341.430. (1) As used in this section:

7 (a) "Associate transfer degree" means an associate degree that is awarded by a community
8 college and that is intended to allow a student to apply the credits earned for the degree toward a
9 baccalaureate degree.

10 (b) "Community college" means a community college operated under ORS chapter 341.

11 (c) "State institution of higher education" means a state institution of higher education listed
12 in ORS 352.002.

13 (d) "Transfer program" means a one-year program that is designed to allow a student to apply
14 the credits earned through the program toward a baccalaureate degree.

15 (2) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall develop standards related to the ability
16 of students to apply credits earned through courses of study at community colleges to baccalaureate
17 degrees awarded by state institutions of higher education. The standards shall be known as the
18 "Transfer Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities."

19 (3) The standards developed under this section [*may*] **must** include:

20 (a) Admission standards to state institutions of higher education for students who have earned
21 an associate transfer degree.

22 (b) [*The maximum*] **Processes to minimize the** number of credits that students who have
23 earned an associate transfer degree would need to complete prior to receiving various types of
24 baccalaureate degrees at state institutions of higher education.

25 (c) [*The maximum*] **Processes to minimize the** number of credits that students who have com-
26 pleted a transfer program would need to complete prior to receiving various types of baccalaureate
27 degrees at state institutions of higher education.

28 (d) [*A process*] **Processes** by which a community college would award an associate degree to a

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 student upon completion of necessary credits, regardless of whether the student applied to receive
2 the degree or whether the student earned the credits for the degree at a community college or a
3 state institution of higher education.

4 **(e) Processes to evaluate and make recommendations for the development of associate**
5 **transfer degrees in specific areas of study, including engineering.**

6 [(e)] (f) Any other issues identified by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission that re-
7 late to courses of study at community colleges and the ability of a student to transfer credits to a
8 community college or a state institution of higher education, to be admitted to a state institution
9 of higher education or to earn a degree at a community college or a state institution of higher ed-
10 ucation.

11 [(f)] (g) Requirements that students must meet in order to benefit from the standards described
12 in paragraphs (a) to [(e)] (f) of this subsection.

13 (4) Each community college and state institution of higher education shall submit annual reports
14 to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission related to:

15 (a) The number of students who attend a community college and then a state institution of
16 higher education, or a state institution of higher education and then a community college.

17 (b) The number of students who attend one community college and then a different community
18 college.

19 (c) The number of students who transfer from a community college to a state institution of
20 higher education and who have an associate transfer degree or have completed a transfer program.

21 (d) The average number of credits students have when they transfer from a community college
22 to a state institution of higher education.

23 (e) The average number of credits students have when they attend one community college and
24 then a different community college.

25 (f) The average number of credits that a student earning an associate transfer degree completed
26 at a community college.

27 (g) The average number of credits students who have transferred from a community college to
28 a state institution of higher education must earn prior to receiving a baccalaureate degree compared
29 to the average number of credits students who did not transfer from a community college must earn
30 prior to receiving a baccalaureate degree.

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