

C-Engrossed
House Bill 3079

Ordered by the Senate June 27
Including House Amendments dated April 19 and Senate Amendments
dated May 30 and June 27

Sponsored by Representatives GORSEK, VEGA PEDERSON, DEMBROW, MCKEOWN; Representatives BAILEY, BUCKLEY, DOHERTY, GALLEGOS, GREENLICK, HARKER, KENY-GUYER, NATHANSON, READ, REARDON, TOMEI, UNGER, WILLIAMSON, WITT, Senators EDWARDS, HASS, ROBLAN

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.

[Requires institutions of higher education to provide students with fact sheet regarding costs of education, loans, educational value of program or degree, average salary or wages, loan default rates and related data prior to enrollment. Requires annual report to Higher Education Coordinating Commission.]

[Requires commission to establish process for determining passage rates of students enrolled in program or degree and for this information to be included in fact sheet by July 1, 2016.]

[Allows commission to amend fact sheet requirements by rule to comply with federal reporting requirements.]

[Specifies standards for data and rates provided.]

[Regulates advertising and solicitation of students by institutions of higher education.]

Eliminates adverse impact process for new publicly funded post-secondary programs or locations.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to higher education; amending ORS 348.603; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 348.603 is amended to read:

5 348.603. (1) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall:

6 (a) Authorize approved schools to offer academic degree programs;

7 (b) Authorize approved degree-granting schools to offer nondegree programs leading to a certifi-
8 cate or diploma;

9 (c) Validate claims of degree possession;

10 (d) Terminate substandard or fraudulent degree activities;

11 (e) Terminate activities of diploma mills operating in or from Oregon;

12 (f) Except as provided in subsection [(4)] **(3)** of this section, terminate the operation in or from
13 Oregon of post-secondary accrediting bodies that are not recognized by the United States Depart-
14 ment of Education or by the commission; and

15 (g) Review proposed new publicly funded post-secondary programs and locations.

16 [(2)(a) *Following review of a proposed new publicly funded post-secondary program or location that*
17 *is not a career pathways certificate of completion program described in ORS 348.611, the commission*
18 *shall recommend resolution to the appropriate governing boards and mediate between the boards to*
19 *seek a negotiated resolution if:]*

20 [(A) *There is a detrimental duplication of programs; or]*

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 *[(B) The program or location would have a significantly adverse impact on one or more other*
2 *segments of education.]*

3 *[(b) If the boards do not resolve the issue raised under paragraph (a) of this subsection within 90*
4 *days of the date when the issue was recommended to the boards for mediation, the commission shall*
5 *have final authority for approval or disapproval of the program or location. If the boards do not re-*
6 *solve the issue, the commission shall approve or disapprove the program or location within 180 days*
7 *of the date when the review began.]*

8 *[(c) If the boards do not resolve the issue, the commission shall approve the program or location*
9 *if the commission finds that the program or location meets an unmet workforce need in the state.]*

10 *[(d) The commission shall establish by rule a fair and neutral decision-making process in consul-*
11 *tation with representatives designated by the State Board of Education, the State Board of Higher*
12 *Education, associations representing Oregon independent colleges, associations representing Oregon*
13 *career colleges, and the governing boards of otherwise unrepresented post-secondary schools.]*

14 [(3)] (2) The commission, by rule, may impose a fee on any school or person requesting infor-
15 mation from the commission. The amount of the fee shall be established to recover designated ex-
16 penses incurred by the commission in carrying out the administration of ORS 348.594 to 348.615.
17 Any fees collected under this subsection shall be deposited in the Degree Authorization Account
18 established under ORS 348.601.

19 [(4)] (3) Subsection (1)(f) of this section does not apply to a body the role of which is to accredit
20 schools that offer only associate, bachelor's or master's degrees with titles in theology or religious
21 occupations or, if the schools also offer doctoral degrees, offer doctoral degrees only in theology or
22 religious occupations that have been approved by a federally recognized accrediting organization.

23 **SECTION 2. This 2013 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
24 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2013 Act takes effect**
25 **on its passage.**

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