

SENATE AMENDMENTS TO B-ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 3079

By JOINT COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

June 27

1 On page 1 of the printed B-engrossed bill, line 2, after “education” insert “; amending ORS
2 348.603; and declaring an emergency”.

3 Delete lines 4 through 20 and delete pages 2 through 5 and insert:

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 cer-
8 tificate 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*
17 *that is not a career pathways certificate of completion program described in ORS 348.611, the com-*
18 *mission shall recommend resolution to the appropriate governing boards and mediate between the*
19 *boards to seek a negotiated resolution if:]*

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

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

23 “[b) *If the boards do not resolve the issue raised under paragraph (a) of this subsection within*
24 *90 days of the date when the issue was recommended to the boards for mediation, the commission shall*
25 *have final authority for approval or disapproval of the program or location. If the boards do not re-*
26 *solve the issue, the commission shall approve or disapprove the program or location within 180 days*
27 *of the date when the review began.]*

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

30 “[d) *The commission shall establish by rule a fair and neutral decision-making process in con-*
31 *sultation with representatives designated by the State Board of Education, the State Board of Higher*
32 *Education, associations representing Oregon independent colleges, associations representing Oregon*
33 *career colleges, and the governing boards of otherwise unrepresented post-secondary schools.]*

34 “[3)] (2) The commission, by rule, may impose a fee on any school or person requesting infor-
35 mation from the commission. The amount of the fee shall be established to recover designated ex-

1 penses incurred by the commission in carrying out the administration of ORS 348.594 to 348.615.
2 Any fees collected under this subsection shall be deposited in the Degree Authorization Account
3 established under ORS 348.601.

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

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

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