

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

House Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Development

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO: None

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Victoria Cox, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/17, 2/19, 2/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to examine viability of program allowing students who graduated from high school in state to attend community college for specified period without paying tuition and fees. Directs HECC to submit report to interim legislative committees on education no later than September 30, 2014. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Proposed –A2 amendments specify the following issues to be considered by the HECC:

1. Anticipated number of participants
2. Anticipated annual cost
3. Current capacity of community colleges
4. Potential eligibility criteria
5. Possibility of requiring use of federal aid first

Proposed –A3 amendments add the following to the above list:

6. Possibility of requiring community service
7. Possibility of requiring career counseling

BACKGROUND: Senate Bill 1524-A directs the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to study the “Oregon Promise” initiative, which would extend two years of free post-secondary community college education to graduates of Oregon high schools.

(Passed Senate Committee and Senate Floor with no dissenting votes.)