### 77th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2014 Regular Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY House Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Development

#### **FISCAL:** Fiscal statement issued Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means 9 - 0 - 0Vote: Gallegos, Gilliam, Gorsek, Greenlick, Huffman, Johnson, Smith Warner, Whisnant, Harker Yeas: Nays: 0 Exc.: 0 **Prepared By:** Victoria Cox, Administrator **Meeting Dates:** 2/10

MEASURE: HB 4018A

**CARRIER:** 

# **REVENUE:** No revenue impact **FISCAL:** Fiscal statement issued

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Moves deadline from June 1, 2015 to May 15, 2014 for Eastern Oregon University, Oregon Institute of Technology, Southern Oregon University and Western Oregon University to notify Governor and State Board of Higher Education of intent to seek governing board. Provides option for State Board of Higher Education to endorse university decision to seek governing board with conditions. Establishes Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development within Higher Education Coordinating Commission. Creates Task Force on Integrating Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development into the Higher Education Coordinating Commission. Provides Higher Education Coordinating Commission with rulemaking authority to set fees on educational institutions seeking to operate or participate in interstate agreement to provide post-secondary distance education.

### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Legislative history of increased autonomy for Oregon universities
- Consensus among university presidents regarding governance proposals
- Recommendations of work group on shared services
- Difficulty of addressing complex governance issues under deadlines of short session

## EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces the measure.

**BACKGROUND:** Senate Bill 270 (2013) established governing boards for Portland State University and University of Oregon, and provided Oregon State University with authority to establish a governing board, which it later exercised. The measure also created the Joint Special Committee on University Governance and Operations to study issues related to governance of Oregon's institutions of post-secondary education, and make appropriate legislative recommendations. House Bill 4018A contains the following recommended provisions:

- Moves the deadline to May 15, 2014 for Eastern Oregon University, Oregon Institute of Technology, Western Oregon University and Southern Oregon University to advise the Governor and the State Board of Higher Education of intent to form a governing board. (Previous deadline was June 1, 2015.)
- Provides the State Board of Higher Education with an option to endorse the intent to form a governing board with conditions. (Previously, the Board could only approve or disapprove such requests.)
- Establishes the Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development within the Higher Education Coordinating Commission and creates a task force to facilitate integration.
- Grants rulemaking authority to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to set and impose fees on institutions that seek to operate or participate in interstate agreements to provide post-secondary distance education.