

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	8 - 1 - 0
Yeas:	Gallegos, Gorsek, Greenlick, Huffman, Johnson, Smith Warner, Whisnant, Harker
Nays:	Gilliam
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Victoria Cox, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/21, 2/24, 2/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Grants Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) authority to enter into and administer interstate agreements regarding provision of post-secondary distance education. Clarifies relationship between HECC and Oregon Education Investment Board (OEIB). Revises composition of State Board of Higher Education (SBHE). Prevents faculty and non-faculty staff members of university governing board from taking part in board discussions relating to collective bargaining. Clarifies legislative intent on how constitutional references to SBHE are interpreted. Enables universities with independent governing boards to continue to participate in the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) as they currently do by making those agencies for purposes of PERS. Prohibits any faculty or non-faculty staff member of institutional governing board of a university from participating in collective bargaining discussions that affect faculty or non-faculty staff of that university. Establishes that notice must be given to Governor and SBHE of intent to become a university with an independent governing board no later than May 15, 2014. Clarifies that independent governing boards of technical and regional universities shall take over administrative responsibilities for university on July 1, 2015. Reestablishes work group on regional education service delivery systems. Clarifies that registering to vote in Oregon has no effect on student eligibility to participate in Western Undergraduate Exchange coordinated by Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Benefits to Oregon of participation in State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) for provision of post-secondary distance education programs not located within the state
- Prohibitions against faculty and non-faculty members of university governing boards participating in discussions related to collective bargaining
- Desirability of moving up date to determine technical and regional university governance structure in order to address larger university coordination and shared service issues
- Participation in the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program and impact on eligibility of registering to vote in Oregon
- Difference between residency requirements for purposes of voting versus paying in-state tuition
- Technical fixes needed to clarify relationship between HECC and OEIB

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Reestablishes work group on regional education service delivery systems. Changes date for technical and regional universities to notify Governor and SBHE of intent to form independent governing board from June 1, 2014 to May 15, 2014. Clarifies that registering to vote in Oregon has no effect on students eligibility to participate in Western Undergraduate Exchange coordinated by Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education.

BACKGROUND: Senate Bill 1525-B, referred to as the “Omnibus” bill, contains a number of technical fixes relating to education.

2/26/2014 11:41:00 AM

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.