

D R A F T

SUMMARY

Directs Higher Education Coordinating Commission to convene work group to analyze and make recommendations on how to address disparities in higher education among traditionally marginalized, underserved and underrepresented communities.

Requires work group to submit report detailing analysis and recommendations to interim legislative committees on higher education by September 15, 2015.

Sunsets work group on December 31, 2016.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to underrepresented communities in higher education; and declaring
3 an emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1. (1) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission**
6 **shall convene a work group to analyze and develop recommendations**
7 **to address disparities in higher education within traditionally**
8 **marginalized, underserved or underrepresented communities.**

9 **(2) The work group established under subsection (1) of this section**
10 **shall be comprised of students, faculty, staff and administrators at**
11 **public universities listed in ORS 352.002 and community colleges. The**
12 **commission and the Oregon Health Authority shall provide any staff-**
13 **ing resources necessary for the work group to complete its analysis**
14 **and recommendations.**

15 **(3) The focus of the work group is on addressing through continuing**
16 **education the disparities that currently exist in higher education for**

1 **the following groups and subgroups:**

2 **(a) People of color;**

3 **(b) People with disabilities;**

4 **(c) Individuals who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender;**

5 **(d) Nontraditional students;**

6 **(e) Students who formerly served in the Armed Forces of the United**
7 **States; and**

8 **(f) People whose first language is not English.**

9 **(4) The commission shall submit a report in the manner provided**
10 **by ORS 192.245 detailing the analysis and recommendations required**
11 **under this section to the interim legislative committees on higher ed-**
12 **ucation no later than September 15, 2015.**

13 **SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2015 Act is repealed on December 31,**
14 **2016.**

15 **SECTION 3. This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate pres-**
16 **ervation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is de-**
17 **clared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect on its passage.**

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