

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**CARRIER:**

Senate Committee on Education

REVENUE: No revenue impact**FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued****Action:****Vote:****Yeas:****Nays:****Exc.:****Prepared By:** Gretchen Engbring, Administrator**Meeting Dates:** 4/16, 4/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Specifies that aggregate total of hours worked by part-time faculty member at more than one public institution of higher education shall be considered in determination of full-time status of faculty member for health care coverage

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Large numbers of faculty who work part-time at multiple institutions
- Challenges for part-time faculty trying to access benefits
- Necessity of adequate state funding to support the legislation
- Financial impact on universities and colleges
- Inequities in access to benefits amongst different employee categories
- Increases in numbers of adjunct faculty

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

-1 amendments (proposed) replace original measure. Remove requirement that part-time faculty member at public institution of higher education pay all insurance premiums for health care benefits unless otherwise provided for by policy of institution or collective bargaining at institution. Specify payment for premium for providing coverage for health care benefits provided to part-time faculty member at public institution of higher education who is eligible for membership in Public Employees Retirement System or other authorized plan. Specify payment for premium for providing health care benefits to dependents of eligible part-time faculty members.

BACKGROUND: ORS 351.704 regulates health care benefits for part-time faculty. As introduced, Senate Bill 702 proposes to amend ORS 351.704 to require that a faculty member employed on a part-time basis by more than one public institution of higher education be considered a full-time employee if the aggregate total of all hours worked at public institutions of higher education by the faculty member in the prior year is equivalent to at least 30 hours per week.

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