

Date April 30, 2015

To Senate Education Committee

From Dana Richardson, HECC Deputy Director, Legislative & Policy Affairs

Subject House Bill 2410A

Good afternoon, Chair Roblan, Vice-Chair Knopp, and members of the committee. For the record, my name is Dana Richardson, Deputy Director for Legislative & Policy Affairs at the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC).

I want to give you a brief overview of House Bill 2410A then turn it over to some of the people that took the lead in bringing this bill to you today to explain further.

Simply put, the bill would allow community colleges to award noncredit training certificates. This is something that four-year universities are currently authorized to do. Community colleges are not.

The HECC submitted this bill on behalf of a work group that was supported by the Community Colleges and Workforce Development agency and the co-chairs of that work group will describe the bill in more detail and explain why it would be beneficial to Oregonians.

Because they will likely not bring it up themselves, I would like to bring to your attention that the work group that developed this bill received an award from the Learning Resources Network for the process they used in developing this innovative business and industry practice.

Thank you for allowing me to share that with you. I'm happy to let the chair of the work group describe the bill in further detail.

I appreciate your time today and would be happy to answer any questions.