

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**CARRIER:**

Senate Committee on Education

REVENUE: No revenue impact**FISCAL: No fiscal impact****Action:****Vote:****Yeas:****Nays:****Exc.:****Prepared By:** Gretchen Engbring, Administrator**Meeting Dates:** 4/30, 5/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows community colleges to award training certificates for noncredit courses and programs upon approval of Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC). Requires community colleges to ensure that new, noncredit courses for training certificates do not adversely impact other public or private post-secondary educational institutions. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Public universities may already award training certificates for noncredit courses and programs
- Need for employees to offer proof of their educational attainment
- May help Oregon reach its 40-40-20 educational goals
- Amendments address potential detrimental duplication of efforts between community colleges, universities, and career schools

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

-3 amendments (proposed) require that board of district operating community college follow procedures established by HECC to ensure that course meets occupational employment need and fulfills regional educational need.

BACKGROUND: Currently, Oregon community colleges are not permitted to issue certificates for noncredit training. Noncredit divisions of the 17 community colleges may only issue Recognition Awards. Noncredit training certificates provide documentation of skill attainment for entry-level positions as well as career advancement in many occupational fields. Employers rely on documentation when considering candidates for placement and promotion. House Bill 2410-A allows community colleges to develop and issue training certificates for noncredit courses and programs.