

Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2015 Regular Session
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
House Committee On Higher Education, Innovation, and Workforce Development

MEASURE: HB 2410 A
CARRIER: Rep. Whisnant

Fiscal: No Fiscal Impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 03/06/15

Action: Do Pass As Amended And Be Printed Engrossed.

Meeting Dates: 02/06, 03/06

Vote:

Yeas: 8 - Gallegos, Hayden, Johnson, McKeown, Nearman, Read, Reardon, Whisnant

Exc: 1 - Williamson

Prepared By: Victoria Cox, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows community colleges to award training certificates for noncredit courses and programs. 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:

- Workforce need for and recognition of training certificates for noncredit classes
- Public universities currently allowed to issue noncredit certificates
- Noncredit divisions of community colleges are self-supporting
- Potential adverse impact on for-profit career schools

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Requires community colleges to ensure that new, noncredit courses for training certificates do not adversely impact other public or private post-secondary educational institutions.

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.