

**STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**House Committee On Higher Education, Innovation, and Workforce Development**

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact

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**Action Date:** 03/06/15

**Action:** Do Pass And Be Referred To Ways And Means By Prior Reference

**Meeting Dates:** 03/02, 03/06

**Vote:**

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

Exc: 1 - Williamson

**Prepared By:** Victoria Cox, Committee Administrator

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Appropriates moneys to Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development to be expended for grant program that distributes moneys to community colleges to increase number of underserved, low-income, and first-generation college-bound students who enroll in community college and make progress toward degree or certificate. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Portland Community College Future Connect program as example of grant recipient
- Scalability of programs, particularly to rural areas
- Importance of support services in addition to scholarships
- Definitions of underserved, low-income, first-generation, and college-bound

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

House Bill 3232 (2013) delineated a series of strategic investments for the Oregon Education Investment Board designed to target specific programs to improve K-12 education and increase access to post-secondary opportunities. Provisions related to improving community college access and success for first-generation and otherwise underserved students were amended out of the measure before its passage. House Bill 4116 (2014) restored \$750,000 funding for these programs. House Bill 3063 appropriates \$3 million to the Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development to fund programs like Future Connect at Portland Community College.