

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 2525 - A

Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2015 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

***Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official***

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Measure Description:

Directs Higher Education Coordinating Commission to develop standards related to transferability of credits and acceptance of test scores for community colleges and public universities.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

See Analysis

Local Government Mandate:

This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

Analysis:

The bill will require the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to create processes to align requirements for community college and public university courses to ensure credits earned of similar courses are fully transferable. Additionally, HECC will need to identify majors in baccalaureate degree programs that require more than two years to complete after a student has earned an associate transfer degree. The HECC will convene a work group that includes representatives of students, community colleges and public universities to assess and make determinations specified in the bill and to submit a report no later than July 1, 2016, to the interim legislative committees on education.

To support this work group HECC would require a limited-duration Program Analyst 3 (.25 FTE) at a cost of \$53,707 in the 2015-17 biennium. An external consultant may also be needed due to the potential complexity of the requirements outlined in this bill; however that determination has not yet been made. The noted uncertainty surrounding this measure's fiscal impact suggests that the agency may need to return to the Emergency Board if budgeted resources prove insufficient to cover the actual costs of this measure.

The fiscal impact to public universities and community colleges is anticipated to be minimal.