

**STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY****Senate Committee On Education****Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact**Action Date:** 04/21/15**Action:** Do Pass With Amendments And Requesting Referral To Ways And Means.  
(Printed A-Engrossed.)**Meeting Dates:** 04/09, 04/21**Vote:**

Yeas: 7 - Baertschiger Jr, Beyer, Gelser, Hass, Knopp, Kruse, Roblan

**Prepared By:** Gretchen Engbring, Committee Administrator

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Requires each school district provide accelerated college credit program at each high school in school district. Specifies what accelerated college credit programs must and may include. Allows college credit to be transferable under specified conditions. Allows exclusively online courses if specified supports are provided. Allows school district or high school to pursue agreement with public university or community college anywhere in Oregon if unable to reach agreement with closest public university or community college that serves high school within 60 days of beginning negotiations. Specifies permissible charges to student participating in accelerated college credit program. Requires school district providing accelerated college credit program collaborate with post-secondary institution of education to ensure courses meet standards for transferable credits, and that students receive specified support. Requires Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) provide statewide standards for accelerated college credit programs that do not have nationally-established standards or state-established accelerated credit standards. Requires high school teachers of accelerated college credit courses be approved by post-secondary institution of education based on specified standards or by process established by HECC. Requires specified reporting requirements. Requires Oregon Education Investment Board (OEIB) identify model programs and best practices to encourage students to participate in accelerated college credit programs and enroll in postsecondary education. Requires Department of Education (ODE) administer grant program to support accelerated college credit programs. Appropriates unspecified amount to ODE for grant program. Establishes Supplemental Accelerated College Credit Account and Accelerated College Account in State Treasury. Specifies system for monetary distributions for accelerated college credit programs. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Proposed amendments replace SB 418 as introduced with amended language of Senate Bill 84 (2015)
- Issues raised during hearings on Senate Bill 84, as expressed in the bullets below
- Findings of the Accelerated Learning Committee
- Student transition from secondary to post-secondary education
- Importance of ensuring academic rigor in accelerated college credit programs so as to avoid setting students up for failure in higher education
- Necessary levels of oversight and safeguards to ensure academic rigor and student success
- Unintended negative consequences of legislation for existing accelerated college credit programs that have already proved successful
- Online supplements to courses versus exclusively online courses

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

Replaces the measure.

**BACKGROUND:**

Senate Bill 254 (2011) created an oversight system and grant program administered by ODE to support accelerated college credit programs, including dual credit, two-plus-two, advanced placement, and International Baccalaureate programs. Senate Bill 222 (2013) established the Accelerated Learning Committee to explore programs like those above and examine methods to further encourage and enable students to obtain college credits while still in high school. The committee released a report on their findings in 2014. Recommendations from the committee included additional funding and legislation to provide access at every Oregon high school to at least three college credit courses at no cost to students and their families.

Senate Bill 418-A requires each school district provide an accelerated college credit program at each high school within the district and details what these programs must and may include. The bill further instructs HECC, OEIB, and ODE to support the programs by providing standards, identifying model programs and best practices, and administering a grant program to support accelerated college programs respectively.