

House Bill 2645

Sponsored by Representative WITT (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requires community colleges and public universities to establish priority enrollment system for qualified students who are active members of Armed Forces of the United States or qualified veterans.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to a priority enrollment system for certain qualified persons.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:**

5 (a) **“Active member of the Armed Forces of the United States” and “Armed Forces of the**
6 **United States” have the meaning given those terms in ORS 351.642.**

7 (b) **“Community college” has the meaning given that term in ORS 341.005.**

8 (c) **“Qualified student” means a student who:**

9 (A) **Is an active member of the Armed Forces of the United States or served in the**
10 **Armed Forces of the United States;**

11 (B) **If a former member of the Armed Forces of the United States, was relieved or dis-**
12 **charged from that service with either an honorable discharge or a general discharge under**
13 **honorable conditions;**

14 (C) **Provides proof that the student has established a physical presence in Oregon within**
15 **12 months of being enrolled at a community college or public university; and**

16 (D) **Has been certified by the Department of Veterans’ Affairs for taking classes at a**
17 **community college or a public university.**

18 (2) **Subject to subsections (3) and (4) of this section, a community college or a public**
19 **university listed in ORS 352.002, in consultation with the department, shall establish a pri-**
20 **ority enrollment system by which a qualified student is prioritized over nonqualified students**
21 **for registration for enrollment at the community college or the public university.**

22 (3)(a) **A qualified student must apply for priority registration for enrollment as provided**
23 **in this section within 10 academic years after the qualified student becomes an active mem-**
24 **ber of the Armed Forces of the United States or, if the student is a former member of the**
25 **Armed Forces of the United States, within 10 academic years after the student leaves state**
26 **or federal active duty.**

27 (b) **The priority provided under this section terminates 15 years after the qualified stu-**
28 **dent becomes an active member of the Armed Forces of the United States or, if the student**
29 **is a former member of the Armed Forces of the United States, 15 years after the student**
30 **leaves state or federal active duty.**

31 (4) **The priority system established pursuant to this section must, at a minimum, provide**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 that a qualified student has priority registration for enrollment over persons who are not
2 qualified students and who are registering for the first time for enrollment at a community
3 college or public university listed in ORS 352.002.

4 SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2015 Act applies only to qualified students applying as new
5 or continuing students for enrollment at a community college or a public university on or
6 after September 15, 2016.

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