

Senate Bill 518

Sponsored by Senator DEMBROW

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**.

Directs Higher Education Coordinating Commission to convene work group of representatives from public universities and community colleges to determine whether 40-40-20 mission would be enhanced by enabling universities to award associate degrees.

If it is determined that mission would be enhanced, requires work group to develop process for universities to award associate degrees and to make recommendations for pilot program.

Sunsets work group on date of convening of 2017 regular session of Legislative Assembly.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to associate degrees at public universities; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall convene a work**
5 **group consisting of representatives from public universities listed in ORS 352.002 and com-**
6 **munity colleges.**

7 **(2) The work group shall determine whether it would advance the mission of education**
8 **beyond high school in Oregon set forth in ORS 351.009 to enable public universities listed in**
9 **ORS 352.002 to award an associate degree to a student upon completion of necessary credits.**

10 **(3) If the work group determines that such action would advance the mission set forth**
11 **in ORS 351.009, the work group shall develop:**

12 **(a) A process by which public universities listed in ORS 352.002 would award an associate**
13 **degree to a student upon completion of necessary credits; and**

14 **(b) Recommendations for a pilot program in which one or more public universities listed**
15 **in ORS 352.002 would be enabled to award an associate degree to a student upon completion**
16 **of necessary credits.**

17 **(4) By November 1, 2016, the work group shall submit a report on its findings and rec-**
18 **ommendations in the manner provided by ORS 192.245 to the interim committees relating to**
19 **higher education.**

20 **SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2015 Act is repealed on the date of the convening of the 2017**
21 **regular session of the Legislative Assembly as specified in ORS 171.010.**

22 **SECTION 3. This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
23 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect**
24 **on its passage.**

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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.