

Senate Bill 619

Sponsored by Senators GELSER, 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**.

Prohibits public universities from adopting school policies with respect to noncredit academic activities, or from refusing student application to, or enrollment or participation in, noncredit academic activity, solely on basis that student was not awarded standard high school diploma or General Educational Development (GED) certificate, or because student received modified or extended diploma.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to discrimination in higher education.

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

4 **SECTION 1. Sections 2 and 3 of this 2015 Act are added to and made a part of ORS**
5 **chapter 352.**

6 **SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section and section 3 of this 2015 Act, “noncredit aca-**
7 **ademic activity” means an academic activity offered by a public university listed in ORS**
8 **352.002 for which academic credit is not offered for participation. “Noncredit academic ac-**
9 **tivity” includes, but is not limited to:**

10 (a) **Auditing an academic course; or**

11 (b) **Participating in a continuing education or community education program.**

12 (2) **A public university listed in ORS 352.002 may not refuse a student application to, or**
13 **enrollment or participation in, any noncredit academic activity solely on the basis that the**
14 **student:**

15 (a) **Is a high school graduate who was not awarded a standard high school diploma or**
16 **General Educational Development (GED) certificate; or**

17 (b) **Has a modified or extended diploma as described in ORS 329.451.**

18 (3) **A public university listed in ORS 352.002 may not adopt any school policy with respect**
19 **to a noncredit academic activity that treats a student differently from other students of the**
20 **university solely on the basis that the student:**

21 (a) **Is a high school graduate who was not awarded a standard high school diploma or**
22 **General Educational Development (GED) certificate; or**

23 (b) **Has a modified or extended diploma as described in ORS 329.451.**

24 **SECTION 3. Nothing in section 2 of this 2015 Act may be construed to limit or otherwise**
25 **prevent a public university listed in ORS 352.002 from:**

26 (1) **Setting academic or other requirements to measure preparedness or qualification to**
27 **participate in a noncredit academic activity;**

28 (2) **Limiting the number of individuals who are not seeking academic credit from partic-**
29 **ipating in an academic activity;**

30 (3) **Granting credit-seeking students priority enrollment in an academic activity before**

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 **allowing noncredit-seeking students to enroll in the academic activity on a first-come, first-**
2 **served basis; or**

3 **(4) Limiting the types or number of courses in which individuals who are not seeking**
4 **academic credit may participate.**

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