

SB 203 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 3/2, 3/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Defines service areas for Columbia Gorge Community College District and Southwestern Oregon Community College District. Defines these districts as the area served prior to the annexation of new territory.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Community college districts' ability to bond
- History of Southwest Oregon Community College District
- History of Columbia Gorge Community College District

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Community college districts are established under the provisions of ORS 341.019 and operate under guidelines established by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission. All areas within the state are served either directly or indirectly by a community college district. Local property taxes are used in part to support the community college districts. Current law requires a vote of the entire district for a bond measure. Senate Bill 203 will allow community college districts to submit bond measures to the voters in the portions of their district that will benefit from the measure.