

**SB 231 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On General Government and Accountability**

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**Prepared By:** C. Ross, LPRO Analyst

**Sub-Referral To:** Joint Committee On Ways and Means

**Meeting Dates:** 4/3, 4/10

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Establishes Task Force on Student Mental Health Support, staffed by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, to investigate the impact of mental health issues and substance abuse disorders on college education, recruitment, retention, and completion and submit report Legislature by July 1, 2018. Sunsets December 31, 2018. Takes effect 91st day after *sine die*.

*Fiscal impact issued.*

*No revenue impact.*

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

**BACKGROUND:**

The American Psychological Association reports sharp increases in the number of severe psychological problems being addressed at college counseling centers around the country in recent years. Oregon's colleges and universities have different programs and resources available for students with behavioral health needs.

Senate Bill 231-A establishes the Task Force on Student Mental Health Support to investigate how mental health issues and substance abuse disorders impact college students. The measure requires the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to provide staff support for the task force, and requires the task force to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature by July 1, 2018.