

House Bill 2540

Sponsored by Representative HACK (Pre-session 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**.

Permits community colleges to offer applied baccalaureate degrees in nursing to individuals with specified qualifications.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to applied baccalaureate degrees in nursing; amending ORS 341.009 and 341.465; and de-
3 claring an emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 341.465 is amended to read:

6 341.465. (1) The board of a district operating a community college, upon approval of the Higher
7 Education Coordinating Commission, may award certificates and associate degrees indicating satis-
8 factory completion of a course of study offered by the community college.

9 (2)(a) The board of a district operating a community college may award training certificates in-
10 dicating satisfactory completion of noncredit courses and programs.

11 (b) Prior to offering a new, noncredit course for a training certificate, the board of a district
12 operating a community college must follow procedures established by the commission to ensure that
13 the course meets an occupational employment need and fulfills a regional educational need.

14 **(3)(a) The board of a district operating a community college may award applied**
15 **baccalaureate degrees in nursing to individuals who:**

16 **(A) Have previously earned an associate degree in nursing; and**

17 **(B) Meet the qualifications set forth in ORS 678.040 to receive a license in nursing under**
18 **ORS 678.010 to 678.448.**

19 **(b) All applied baccalaureate degree programs in nursing offered under this section must**
20 **be accredited by the Oregon State Board of Nursing.**

21 **SECTION 2.** ORS 341.009 is amended to read:

22 341.009. The Legislative Assembly finds that:

23 (1) The community college is an educational institution that is intended to fill the institutional
24 gap in education by offering broad, comprehensive programs in academic subjects and in career and
25 technical education subjects. It is primarily designed to provide associate or certificate degree pro-
26 grams for some, serve a transitional purpose for others who will continue baccalaureate or other
27 college work, provide the ability to enter the workforce immediately and serve to determine future
28 educational needs for other students. It can provide means for continuation of academic education,
29 career and technical education or the attainment of entirely new skills as demands for old skills and
30 old occupations are supplanted by new technologies. It may also provide the means to coordinate
31 courses and programs with high schools to accommodate successful transition to college degree

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 programs.

2 (2) Each community college should be so located as to be within commuting time of a substantial
3 majority of its students. As an economical method of providing education close to the student's
4 home, the community college should remain a commuting institution.

5 (3) The community college should establish its organizational patterns to maintain a unique
6 quality of flexibility and the ability to change to meet changing needs.

7 (4) The community college is a post-high-school institution. It should not be a "starter" insti-
8 tution intended to evolve into a four-year baccalaureate institution. [*It should be concerned with*
9 *programs terminating before reaching the baccalaureate degree.*]

10 [(5) *The community college should continue to be prohibited by law from becoming a baccalaureate*
11 *degree granting institution.*]

12 [(6) (5) Admission to the community college should be open to high school graduates or to
13 persons who have not graduated from high school who can profit from the instruction offered.

14 [(7) (6) There should be close cooperation between those directing the community college pro-
15 gram and those responsible for public universities listed in ORS 352.002, so that lower-division col-
16 lege transfer programs of the community college will provide adequate preparation for entering
17 baccalaureate degree granting programs, and so that students will be able to transfer with a mini-
18 mum of difficulty.

19 [(8) (7) The community college should offer as comprehensive a program as the needs and re-
20 sources of the area that it serves dictate. Cost to student and quality of instruction in established
21 private institutions should be among the factors in determining necessary duplication of effort.

22 [(9) (8) It should be the policy of the community college to open its facilities and make available
23 its resources to the high schools of its area on a sound contractual basis, for appropriate secondary
24 or transitional courses, either academic or as part of career and technical education, when it is
25 within its ability to provide facilities and it is determined that the high school cannot or does not
26 offer them.

27 [(10) (9) Programs designed to meet the needs of the area served should be based on the actual
28 educational and service needs of the district. Specific career and technical education courses should
29 be related not only to the employment opportunities of the area but of the state and nation as well.
30 Such determination should be made in consultation with representatives of labor, business, industry,
31 agriculture and other interested groups.

32 [(11) (10) The initiative for the establishment of new community colleges should come from the
33 localities to be served, as a response to demonstrated educational needs of an area. However, these
34 localities must not only be willing to assume the responsibility for the institutions but must be able
35 to provide resources needed for an adequate educational and service program.

36 [(12) (11) The governing board of the community college should be charged with the policy-
37 making function. With respect to educational programming, the governing board shall:

38 (a) Identify educational needs of the district; and

39 (b) Bring together the resources necessary to meet the needs.

40 [(13) (12) The state should maintain a policy of substantial state participation in community
41 college building costs and the maintenance of an adequate level of state support for operation.
42 However, no state funds should be appropriated for buildings such as dormitories or athletic facili-
43 ties for spectator sports. The district should provide a substantial portion of the funds for capital
44 improvement as well as for operation of a community college.

45 [(14) (13) State appropriations for community colleges shall be made separately from those for

1 other segments of education.

2 [(15)] (14) The formula for the distribution of funds for operating costs should reflect the heavier
3 operating costs and capital outlay for certain career and technical education courses. Federal funds
4 received for career and technical education, adult basic education, workforce development or other
5 federal initiatives should be used for those purposes only and be distributed separately from funds
6 appropriated by the state and should be exempted from the computations of the present distribution
7 formula for operating costs.

8 [(16)] (15) The cost of education to the individual should be sufficiently low to permit students
9 of low-income families to attend. This is particularly true of tuition costs. However, students should
10 pay an amount sufficient to provide an incentive to profit from the instructional program offered.

11 [(17)] (16) Any eligible Oregon resident should have the right to attend a community college
12 even though not residing in a district operating one, subject to the right of the governing board to
13 limit the size of classes and to give preference to students residing in the district. Local school
14 districts and education service districts should have the authority to negotiate the terms and con-
15 ditions with the governing boards for the enrollment of students residing in such areas.

16 **SECTION 3. This 2017 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
17 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2017 Act takes effect**
18 **on its passage.**

19