

SB 1557 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Thatcher

Senate Committee On Education

Action Date: 02/14/18

Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 7-0-0-0

Yeas: 7 - Bentz, Dembrow, Gelser, Hass, Linthicum, Roblan, Thomsen

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Lisa Gezelter, LPRO Analyst

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Provides rights to students at community colleges, public universities, or Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) who are ordered to active duty for 30 days or fewer. Allows student, in accordance with policies and practices for excused absences, to complete missing assignments or exams, allows teachers to award grades without requiring students to complete assignments or exams, and prevents missed assignments or exams that are completed after the student's return from adversely impacting the student's grades. Allows Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to adopt rules relating to scholarships and grants funded by community colleges, public universities, or by the agency. Applies to students ordered to active duty after the beginning of the 2018-2019 academic year. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Hardships faced by National Guard members called up to active duty for fewer than 30 days
- Tuition and fee responsibilities
- HECC rule-making authority

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure. Provides rights to students at community colleges, public universities, or Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) who are ordered to active duty for 30 days or fewer. Allows students, in accordance with policies and practices for excused absences, to complete missing assignments or exams, allows teachers to award grades without requiring students to complete assignments or exams, and prevents missed assignments or exams that are completed after the student's return from adversely impacting the student's grades. Allows Higher Education Coordinating Commission to adopt rules relating to scholarships and grants funded by community colleges, public universities, or by the agency. Applies to students ordered to active duty after the beginning of the 2018-2019 academic year. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

BACKGROUND:

In 2005, the Oregon legislature enacted protections for higher education students ordered to active duty for more than 30 days. HB 1557-A extends certain protections to students ordered to active duty for 30 or fewer days.