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.

Requires each public university to establish advisory body to advise university president on recommendations to governing board regarding resident tuition and mandatory enrollment fees.

Requires public university to provide specified training and information to advisory body. Requires advisory body to document consideration of specified impacts of recommended resident tuition and mandatory enrollment fees before making recommendation to president of university to increase resident tuition and mandatory enrollment fees by more than five percent annually.

Requires advisory body to provide meaningful opportunities to participate in process and deliberation of advisory body to recognized student government and other students enrolled at public university.

Requires advisory body to provide written report to president of university setting forth recommendations, deliberations and observations of advisory body regarding resident tuition and mandatory enrollment fees. Specifies contents of report.

Requires governing board to receive and consider written reports from advisory body when determining tuition and mandatory enrollment fees.

Provides that if Higher Education Coordinating Commission must approve request by governing board to increase total of resident tuition and mandatory enrollment fees for undergraduate resident students by more than five percent, that public university will provide commission with written reports from advisory body and any other information or materials commission determines are necessary for commission to reach determination.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to setting the costs of attending public universities; creating new provisions; amending ORS 352.102; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2018 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 352.025 to 352.146.

SECTION 2. (1) Each public university listed in ORS 352.002 shall have an advisory body to advise the president of the university on the president’s recommendations to the governing board regarding resident tuition and mandatory enrollment fees for the upcoming academic year.

(2) The public university shall:

(a) Establish a process to ensure that the advisory body required under subsection (1) of this section is composed of no fewer than:

(A) Two administrators of the university;

(B) Two faculty members of the university;
(C) Two students representing the recognized student government of the university; and
(D) Two students representing historically underserved students of the university, as defined by the public university.

(b) Establish a written document describing the role of the advisory body and the relationship of the advisory body to the public university, president of the university and the governing board.

(3) The public university shall ensure that all members of the advisory body are offered training on:
   (a) The budget of the public university;
   (b) The mechanisms by which moneys are appropriated by the Legislative Assembly to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for allocation to public universities; and
   (c) Historical data regarding the relationship between the amount of resident tuition and mandatory enrollment fees charged by the public university and the amount of state appropriations that the commission allocates to the public university.

(4) In order to assist the advisory body in making its recommendations, the public university shall provide the advisory body with:
   (a) A plan for how the governing board and the public university's administration are managing costs on an ongoing basis; and
   (b) A plan for how resident tuition and mandatory enrollment fees could be decreased if the public university receives more moneys from the state than anticipated.

(5) Before making a recommendation to the president of the university that resident tuition and mandatory enrollment fees should be increased by more than five percent annually, the advisory body must document its consideration of:
   (a) The impact of the resident tuition and mandatory enrollment fees that the advisory body intends to recommend to the president of the public university on:
      (A) Students at the public university, with an emphasis on historically underserved students, as defined by the public university; and
      (B) The mission of the public university, as described by the mission statement adopted under ORS 352.089; and
   (b) Alternative scenarios that involve smaller increases in resident tuition and mandatory enrollment fees than the advisory body intends to recommend to the president of the public university.

(6) The advisory body shall:
   (a) Provide meaningful opportunities for members of the recognized student government and other students enrolled at the public university to participate in the process and deliberations of the advisory body; and
   (b) At a time established by the public university, provide a written report to the president of the university that sets forth the recommendations, deliberations and observations of the advisory body regarding resident tuition and mandatory enrollment fees for the upcoming academic year. The written report must include any minority report requested by a member of the advisory body and any documents produced or received by the advisory body under subsections (4) and (5) of this section.

(7) Each public university shall ensure that the process of establishing resident tuition and mandatory enrollment fees at the public university is described on the Internet website of the public university. This material must include, but is not limited to:
(a) The written document produced by the public university under subsection (2)(b) of this section; and
(b) All relevant documents, agendas and data that are considered by the advisory body during its deliberations.

(8) As used in this section, “resident tuition and mandatory enrollment fees” means the tuition and mandatory enrollment fees for undergraduate students who are enrolled in a degree program and have established residency in Oregon.

SECTION 3. ORS 352.102 is amended to read:

(1) Except as set forth in this section, the governing board may authorize, establish, eliminate, collect, manage, use in any manner and expend all revenue derived from tuition and mandatory enrollment fees.

(2) The governing board shall establish a process for determining tuition and mandatory enrollment fees. The process must provide for participation of enrolled students and the recognized student government of the university:

(a) Include the use of an advisory body in the manner set forth in section 2 of this 2018 Act; and
(b) Ensure that the governing board receives and considers all written reports and minority reports, including all recommendations, deliberations and observations of the advisory body that are provided to the president of the university under section 2 of this 2018 Act.

(3) The governing board shall request that the president of the university transmit to the board the joint recommendation of the president and the recognized student government before the board authorizes, establishes or eliminates any incidental fees for programs under the supervision or control of the board and found by the board to be advantageous to the cultural or physical development of students.

(4) In determining tuition and mandatory enrollment fees for undergraduate students who are enrolled in a degree program and are qualified to pay resident tuition:

(a) The governing board may not increase the total of tuition and mandatory enrollment fees by more than five percent annually unless the board first receives approval from:

(A) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission; or

(B) The Legislative Assembly.

(b) The governing board shall attempt to limit annual increases in tuition and mandatory enrollment fees for undergraduate students who are enrolled in a degree program and have established residency in Oregon to a percentage that is not greater than the percentage increase in the Higher Education Price Index, as compiled by the Commonfund Institute.

(5) If the governing board of a public university requests that the commission approve an increase in the total amount of tuition and mandatory enrollment fees of more than five percent under subsection (4)(a) of this section, the public university shall provide to the commission:

(a) All written reports and minority reports, including all recommendations, deliberations and observations of the advisory body that are provided to the president of the university under section 2 of this 2018 Act; and

(b) Any other information or materials the commission determines are necessary in order for the commission to determine whether to approve the proposed increase in the total amount of tuition and mandatory enrollment fees.

[(5)] (6) The governing board may not delegate authority to determine tuition and mandatory
enrollment fees for undergraduate students who are enrolled in a degree program and are qualified
to pay resident tuition.

SECTION 4. Section 2 of this 2018 Act and the amendments to ORS 352.102 by section 3
of this 2018 Act first apply to the process used to establish tuition and mandatory enrollment
fees for the 2019-2020 academic year.

SECTION 5. This 2018 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2018 Act takes effect
on its passage.