

House Bill 4153

Sponsored by Representative SMITH G (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**.

Designates Eastern Oregon University as Oregon's Rural University.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to Eastern Oregon University.

2 Whereas Eastern Oregon University was founded in 1929 to serve as a resource for rural com-
3 munities; and

4 Whereas Eastern Oregon University represents rural Oregon as part of its mission, core values
5 and principle of service to this state; and

6 Whereas Eastern Oregon University was the first university in this state to develop distance
7 education programs for place bound students and continues to serve those students throughout this
8 state and beyond; and

9 Whereas Eastern Oregon University serves the highest percentage of students eligible to receive
10 the Federal Pell Grant in this state; and

11 Whereas Eastern Oregon University has 11 online and distance education locations in partner-
12 ship with communities and community colleges throughout the rural sectors of this state; and

13 Whereas Eastern Oregon University hosts thousands of elementary and secondary school stu-
14 dents each year, providing them an opportunity to experience university life through programs such
15 as Eastern Promise, the Math Olympiad, Future Business Leaders of America, regional competitions,
16 sports camps and musical performances; and

17 Whereas Eastern Oregon University is actively engaged with area communities through en-
18 couraging community members at every stage of life to participate and perform in vocal and in-
19 strumental music groups; and

20 Whereas Eastern Oregon University has a significant effect on the percentage of university de-
21 gree holders, and thereby the professional workforce, in a small rural community; and

22 Whereas Eastern Oregon University acts as a focal point for citizens of all age groups in East-
23 ern Oregon by establishing the importance of education in a rural community and by incorporating
24 the area into the advanced global economy; and

25 Whereas Eastern Oregon University is recognized nationally for being friendly to the military,
26 and a significant number of veterans reside in, and serve as a large part of the economies of, the
27 rural communities served by the university; and

28 Whereas Eastern Oregon University presents a community and campus that is not overwhelm-
29 ingly larger than the majority of rural communities in the region, thereby providing a comfortable
30 transition and making university success more likely for many rural students; and

31 Whereas Eastern Oregon University is recognized nationally for its online and distance educa-
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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 tion programs; now, therefore,

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

3 **SECTION 1. Eastern Oregon University is designated and shall be known as Oregon's**
4 **Rural University.**

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