A-Bill for an Act

Relating to modified diplomas; creating new provisions; amending ORS 327.026, 339.115 and 340.005; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 339.115 is amended to read:

339.115. (1) Except as provided in ORS 339.141, authorizing tuition for courses not part of the regular school program, the district school board shall admit free of charge to the schools of the district all persons between the ages of 5 and 19 who reside within the school district. A person whose 19th birthday occurs during the school year shall continue to be eligible for a free and appropriate public education for the remainder of the school year. A district school board may admit nonresident persons, determine who is not a resident of the district and fix rates of tuition for nonresidents.

(2) (a) A district must admit an otherwise eligible person who has not yet attained 21 years of age prior to the beginning of the current school year if the person is:

(A) Receiving special education and has not yet received a high school diploma [or a modified diploma] as described in ORS 329.451; or

(B) Receiving special education and has received a modified diploma, an extended diploma or an alternative certificate as described in ORS 329.451.

(b) A district may admit an otherwise eligible person who is not receiving special education and who has not yet attained 21 years of age prior to the beginning of the current school year if the person is shown to be in need of additional education in order to receive a high school diploma or a modified diploma.

(3) The obligation to make a free appropriate public education available to individuals with disabilities 18 through 21 years of age who are incarcerated in an adult correctional facility applies only to those individuals who, in their last educational placement prior to their incarceration in the
adult correctional facility:

(a) Were identified as being a child with a disability as defined in ORS 343.035; or
(b) Had an individualized education program as described in ORS 343.151.

(4) For purposes of subsection (3) of this section, “adult correctional facility” means:

(a) A local correctional facility as defined in ORS 169.005;
(b) A regional correctional facility as defined in ORS 169.620; or
(c) A Department of Corrections institution as defined in ORS 421.005.

(5) An otherwise eligible person under subsection (2) of this section whose 21st birthday occurs during the school year shall continue to be eligible for a free appropriate public education for the remainder of the school year.

(6) The person may apply to the board of directors of the school district of residence for admission after the 19th birthday as provided in subsection (1) of this section. A person aggrieved by a decision of the local board may appeal to the State Board of Education. The decision of the state board is final and not subject to appeal.

(7) Notwithstanding ORS 339.133 (2)(a), a school district shall not exclude from admission a child located in the district solely because the child does not have a fixed place of residence or solely because the child is not under the supervision of a parent, guardian or person in a parental relationship.

(8) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, a school district:

(a) May for the remaining period of an expulsion deny admission to the regular school to a resident student who is expelled from another school district; and
(b) Shall for at least one calendar year from the date of the expulsion and if the expulsion is for more than one calendar year, may for the remaining period of time deny admission to the regular school program to a student who is under expulsion from another school district for an offense that constitutes a violation of a school district policy adopted pursuant to ORS 339.250 (7).

(9) Notwithstanding the minimum age requirement prescribed by ORS 339.010 and 339.020, a district school board may admit free of charge a child whose needs for cognitive, social and physical development would best be met in the school program, as defined by policies of the district school board, to enter school even though the child has not attained the minimum age requirement but is a resident of the district.

SECTION 2. ORS 327.026 is amended to read:

327.026. (1) In order to accomplish the purpose described in ORS 326.700, the State Board of Education shall adopt by rule definitions and procedures to be applied to the computation of the State School Fund allocations where necessary to make students enrolled in the Youth Corrections Education Program, as defined in ORS 326.695, and the Juvenile Detention Education Program, as defined in ORS 326.695, equivalent to students enrolled in common and union high school districts for purposes of distribution of the fund.

(2)(a) The Youth Corrections Education Program shall receive from the State School Fund for each school year a special State School Fund grant, consisting of a general purpose grant that is equal to the Youth Corrections Education Program extended ADMw multiplied by Funding Percentage and further multiplied by Statewide Target per ADMw Grant. For the purpose of the calculation made under this paragraph:

(A) ADMw equals ADM multiplied by 2.0 multiplied by the additional per student weight, as calculated in ORS 327.013 (1)(c)(A)(i).
(B) Extended ADMw equals ADMw or ADMw of the prior year, whichever is greater.
(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this subsection, the Youth Corrections Education Program may not receive moneys under this section from the State School Fund for any youth in the program who:

(A) Has received a high school diploma [or a modified diploma]; or

(B) Is 21 years of age or older.

(3) The Juvenile Detention Education Program shall receive from the State School Fund for each school year a special State School Fund grant, consisting of a general purpose grant that is equal to the Juvenile Detention Education Program extended ADMw multiplied by Funding Percentage and further multiplied by Statewide Target per ADMw Grant. For the purpose of the calculation made under this subsection:

(a) ADMw equals ADM multiplied by 1.5.

(b) Extended ADMw equals ADMw or ADMw of the prior year, whichever is greater.

(4) Funds allocated to the Youth Corrections Education Program and the Juvenile Detention Education Program from the State School Fund shall remain with the Department of Education and shall be adjusted in the year following the distribution to reflect the actual ADMw of students in the Youth Corrections Education Program and the Juvenile Detention Education Program in the same manner as for the school districts under ORS 327.101.

SECTION 3. ORS 340.005 is amended to read:

340.005. For purposes of ORS 340.005 to 340.090:

(1) “Accelerated college credit program” has the meaning given that term by rules adopted by the State Board of Education.

(2) “At-risk student” means:

(a) A student who qualifies for a free or reduced lunch program; or

(b) An at-risk student as defined by rules adopted by the board if the board has adopted rules to define an at-risk student.

(3) “Duplicate course” means a course with a scope that is identical to the scope of another course.

(4)(a) “Eligible post-secondary course” means any nonsectarian course or program offered through an eligible post-secondary institution if the course or program may lead to high school completion, a certificate, professional certification, associate degree or baccalaureate degree.

(b) “Eligible post-secondary course” does not include a duplicate course offered at the student’s resident school.

(c) “Eligible post-secondary course” includes:

(A) Academic courses;

(B) Career and technical education courses; and

(C) Distance education courses.

(5) “Eligible post-secondary institution” means:

(a) A community college;

(b) A public university listed in ORS 352.002; and

(c) The Oregon Health and Science University.

(6)(a) “Eligible student” means a student who is enrolled in an Oregon public school and who:

(A) Is 16 years of age or older at the time of enrollment in a course under the Expanded Options Program;

(B)(i) Is in grade 11 or 12 at the time of enrollment in a course under the Expanded Options Program; or
(ii) Is not in grade 11 or 12, because the student has not completed the required number of credits, but who has been allowed by the school district to participate in the program;

(C) Has developed an educational learning plan as described in ORS 340.025; and

(D) Has not successfully completed the requirements for a high school diploma [or a modified diploma] as established by ORS 329.451, the State Board of Education and the school district board.

(b) “Eligible student” does not include a foreign exchange student enrolled in a school under a cultural exchange program.

(7) “Expanded Options Program” means the program created under ORS 340.005 to 340.090.

(8) “Scope” means depth and breadth of course content as evidenced through a planned course statement including content outline, applicable state content standards where appropriate, course goals and student outcomes.

SECTION 4. The amendments to ORS 327.026, 339.115 and 340.005 by sections 1 to 3 of this 2018 Act apply to persons who received a modified diploma before, on or after the effective date of this 2018 Act.

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.