

HB 2213 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/25, 3/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires each community college and public university ensure the course description for every academic course offered in the succeeding academic term lists all textbooks that enrolled students are required to purchase and be publicly available the first day students can enroll. Requires academic department assign course materials to courses without assigned instructor and specifies requirements for consideration. Requires each community college and public university establish textbook affordability plan, with at least one student representative. Establishes required elements of plan.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Importance of textbook affordability and providing reduced prices for students
- Interest in drafting amendment to respond to concerns expressed by public universities

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Removes requirement that college and university ensure course description lists textbooks offered in succeeding academic term. Removes requirement that academic department assign course materials to courses without assigned instructor.

BACKGROUND:

In 2008, the Higher Education Opportunity Act made a series of provisions and some affected textbook publishers and post-secondary institutions. It required publishers provide faculty members with price information and copyright dates of previous textbook editions. It also required that institutions publish in registration materials information about all required texts used in class, which includes retail price of these materials.

House Bill 2213 would require community colleges and public universities ensure course descriptions list all textbooks that are required in the succeeding academic term. It requires that colleges and universities establish textbook affordability plans with at least one student representative