

## HB 2942 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On Education

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**Action Date:** 04/03/19

**Action:** Do pass and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference

**Vote:** 7-2-0-0

**Yeas:** 7 - Alonso Leon, Doherty, Helt, Hernandez, Neron, Reardon, Sollman

**Nays:** 2 - Reschke, Wallan

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Alethia Miller, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 4/3

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) adopt statewide higher education equity plan (plan). Requires plan include recommended strategies for decreasing gap in educational attainment for diverse and underserved groups compared to overall population. Requires HECC collaborate with public universities, community college districts, private institutions of higher education, and consult with diverse and underserved groups. Requires HECC take into account statewide equity plan. Requires executive director appoint full-time Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer, to oversee and promote statewide higher education equity plan. Extends mission of HECC to include decreasing gap in educational attainment experienced by diverse and underserved groups.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Work provided by Director of Culture and Inclusion at the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC)
- Interest in applying equity lens in HECC policies through role
- Interest in reviewing equity goals maintained by HECC

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

#### BACKGROUND:

The Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) already oversees several initiatives related to diversity, inclusion, and equity. Senate Bill 755 (2013) and House Bill 3375 (2015) directed the HECC, Chief Education Office, Oregon Department of Education, and Teacher Standards and Practices Commission to create the Oregon Educator Equity Report which documents diversifying educator workforce in the state. HECC also approves 2018-2020 educator equity plans for the public institutions in the State of Oregon, which requires public educator preparation programs to produce plans to increase cultural and linguistic diversity.

House Bill 2942 requires the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) adopt a statewide higher education equity plan. The plan will recommend strategies for decreasing the gap in educational attainment for diverse and underserved groups. It requires the HECC to appoint a full-time Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer, to oversee and promote the statewide higher education equity plan. The measure extends the agency mission to include decreasing the gap in educational attainment.