HB 2263 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Action Date: 05/13/19

Action: Do pass the A-Eng bill.

Vote: 3-0-0-2

Yeas: 3 - Gelser, Hass, Wagner
Abs: 2 - Heard, Thomsen
Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Tamara Dykeman, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/29, 5/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Oregon Department of Education (ODE), in collaboration with the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC), to administer the Accelerated College Credit Planning Partnership Grant Program. Defines accelerated college credit programs as dual credit, two-plus-two, advanced placement, and International Baccalaureate programs. Requires grants to be distributed to encourage partnerships between school districts and post-secondary institutions to offer accelerated college credit programs. Requires grant applicants to include at least one school district or education service district (ESD) with less than five percent of students participating in accelerated programs or a low percentage of historically underrepresented students attending a post-secondary institution. Requires grant applicants to create a plan to offer courses and to establish a partnership agreement, as specified. Provides allowable uses for grants. Requires courses funded by grant to comply with standards to ensure transfer of credits to public community colleges and universities. Directs ODE, in collaboration with the HECC, to administer the Accelerated College Credit Partnership Enhancement Grant Program. Requires grants to be distributed to enhance accelerated college credit program partnerships. Provides allowable uses for grants. Requires ODE to consider previous enrollment in accelerated programs and credits earned by historically underrepresented students in post-secondary institutions when awarding enhancement grants. Renames training grant program established under ORS 340.320 to the Accelerated College Credit Instructor Grant Program. Requires grants to be distributed to provide education or training to instructors in accelerated college credit programs. Provides allowable uses for grants. Directs ODE, for the 2019-2021 biennium, to provide grants to school districts to pay tuition costs for up to 65 high school instructors to become qualified as instructors of accelerated college credit courses and to post-secondary institutions to develop at least six content areas of graduate course offerings that meet dual credit program qualifications. Requires all moneys received for grant programs to be paid to the Accelerated College Credit Account established under ORS 340.330. Requires ODE to submit a report on grant programs to the Legislative Assembly no later than December 1 of each year. Directs HECC to study and recommend content areas of graduate courses that meet dual credit program qualifications and to submit a report on the study to the Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2020. Directs the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) to study whether to create an accelerated learning specialization and to submit a report on the study to the Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2020. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Statewide Implementation of accelerated learning opportunities
- Sustainable Systems for Accelerated Learning Workgroup
- Gaps in accelerated learning opportunities
- Equitable access for rural and underrepresented students
- Source of funding for partnership and planning grants

Carrier: Sen. Wagner

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- Teacher impact on students' choice to enroll in accelerated learning courses
- Need for statewide goals, evaluation, and metrics for accelerated learning programs

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

ORS 340.300 requires school districts to provide students with opportunities to earn college credit while in high school through accelerated college credit programs. Accelerated programs include dual credit, two-plus-two, advanced placement, and International Baccalaureate programs. The Chief Education Office has identified several issues related to Oregon's accelerated programs: equitable access to programs for rural and underrepresented students, support for students and their families, and the ability to transfer college credits earned in high school to Oregon public community colleges and universities. House Bill 2263 A consolidates three standalone, accelerated-learning grant programs into three interrelated programs. The purpose of the interrelated programs is to facilitate partnerships between school districts and higher education to offer accelerated learning courses and to increase the number of teachers qualified to teach those courses. The bill also requires HECC and TSPC to study specified methods to increase the number of qualified instructors.