

House Bill 2308

Sponsored by Representative REARDON (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**.

Directs school districts to report participation and completion rates of accelerated college credit programs.

Directs Department of Education and Higher Education Coordinating Commission to post online information about participation and completion rates of accelerated college credit programs and about transferability of credits earned through those programs.

Directs commission to develop statewide standards for transferability of accelerated college credit program credits, and requires school districts, community college and public universities to follow standards.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to accelerated college credit programs; amending ORS 340.300.

3 Whereas additional state dollars have been distributed to school districts through Measure 98
4 funding and through Regional Promise Grants, and those distributions have expanded accelerated
5 college credit opportunities for more high school student across this state; and

6 Whereas the costs of attending a public post-secondary institution of education in this state
7 continues to rise, and more and more Oregon high school students are opting to participate in ac-
8 celerated college credit opportunities to prepare for higher education and to help reduce some of
9 the expenses from attending higher education; and

10 Whereas after completing accelerated college credit opportunities, Oregon's high school gradu-
11 ates face inconsistent and unclear systems and policies when it comes to transferring accelerated
12 college credits to public post-secondary institutions of education, including inconsistent transfer
13 policies among the public post-secondary institutions of education in relation to acceptance of
14 credits or whether the credits are accepted only as electives; and

15 Whereas students who are unable to successfully navigate these challenges are more likely to
16 accumulate excessive debt and experience more barriers when completing higher education; and

17 Whereas first generation college students experience different challenges, such as lack of sup-
18 port or guidance, when trying to navigate the system of higher education and these challenges
19 compound when there are complications with transferring accelerated college credit; now, therefore,

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

21 **SECTION 1.** ORS 340.300 is amended to read:

22 340.300. (1) As used in this section, "accelerated college credit programs" includes dual credit
23 programs, two-plus-two programs, advanced placement programs and International Baccalaureate
24 programs.

25 (2) Each school district shall:

26 (a) Provide students in grades 9 through 12 with accelerated college credit programs including,
27 but not limited to, accelerated college credit programs related to English, mathematics and science;
28 or

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 (b) Ensure that students in grades 9 through 12 have online access to accelerated college credit
2 programs including, but not limited to, accelerated college credit programs related to English,
3 mathematics and science.

4 **(3) School districts shall report to the Department of Education the participation and**
5 **completion rates of accelerated college credit programs by students in the school district.**

6 **(4) The department and the Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall jointly**
7 **make the following information available online:**

8 **(a) Information collected under subsection (3) of this section; and**

9 **(b) Information about the transferability of credits earned through accelerated college**
10 **credit programs to the public post-secondary institutions of education in this state.**

11 **(5) The commission shall develop statewide standards for the transferability of credits**
12 **earned through an accelerated college credit program. The standards must:**

13 **(a) Ensure that credits earned through accelerated college credit programs are accepted**
14 **consistently by all of the post-secondary institutions of education; and**

15 **(b) Maximize the acceptance of credits at post-secondary institutions of education, both**
16 **in terms of the total number of credits earned and the type of credits earned.**

17 **(6) Each public high school, community college and public university listed in ORS 352.002**
18 **must implement the statewide standards developed under subsection (5) of this section.**

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