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 commission to conduct study on post-secondary students’ access to basic necessities and submit report to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to higher education no later than September 15, 2020.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2019.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to post-secondary student financial aid; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall establish an Oregon work study pilot program.

(2) The purpose of the pilot program is to assist students attending Oregon State University or Western Oregon University in accessing work study financial aid, which may increase access to federal benefits, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

(3) The commission shall adopt rules to implement and administer the pilot program.

SECTION 2. (1) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall conduct a study on food insecurity and access to basic necessities for life among students attending post-secondary institutions in Oregon and provide a report as described in subsection (2) of this section. In conducting the study, the commission shall consult with state agencies, nonprofit organizations and members of the public who have an interest in ensuring that students attending post-secondary institutions have access to basic necessities for life. As part of the study, the commission shall:

(a) Determine the number of students eligible for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program but unable to participate in a federal work study program due to lack of sufficient funding;

(b) Conduct an analysis of the impacts on students described in paragraph (a) of this subsection, in terms of financial aid and matriculation rates;

(c) Review other state and local models for programs that assist low-income students with accessing services that provide the basic necessities for life;

(d) Seek direct input from low-income students; and

(e) Identify community-based organizations and key informants that assist low-income students outside the higher education system.

(2) The commission shall present the results of the study, along with any recommended legislative changes, in a report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related

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.

LC 1185
to higher education in the manner provided under ORS 192.245 on or before September 15, 2020.

SECTION 3. (1) In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, out of the General Fund, the amount of $450,000, which may be expended for carrying out the provisions of section 1 of this 2019 Act.

(2) In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, out of the General Fund, the amount of $50,000, which may be expended for carrying out the provisions of section 2 of this 2019 Act.

SECTION 4. (1) Section 1 of this 2019 Act is repealed on January 2, 2023.

(2) Section 2 of this 2019 Act is repealed on January 2, 2021.

SECTION 5. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect July 1, 2019.

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