In line 2 of the printed bill, after the semicolon delete the rest of the line and insert “and declaring an emergency.”.

After line 2, insert:

“Whereas median household income in Klamath County, Jackson County and Josephine County sits well below the statewide median household income; and

“Whereas residents of Klamath County, Jackson County and Josephine County achieve post-secondary success at rates significantly lower than the state average; and

“Whereas youth ages 16 to 24 in Klamath County, Jackson County and Josephine County are disconnected from both school and work at notably higher levels than the state average; and

“Whereas Oregon Institute of Technology, Klamath Community College, Southern Oregon University and Rogue Community College have committed to working together in the Southern Oregon Higher Education Consortium to leverage their individual strengths to improve the educational attainment in the underserved populations of southern Oregon; and

“Whereas the Southern Oregon Higher Education Consortium has already begun to identify and resolve systemic barriers that prevent students from accessing the programs and services of the four member institutions; now, therefore,”.

Delete lines 4 through 15 and insert:

“SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:

“(a) ‘Consortium’ means the association between Oregon Institute of Technology, Klamath Community College, Southern Oregon University and Rogue Community College.

“(b) ‘Navigator’ means an individual who works with students and administrative leadership at each of the consortium institutions to:

“(A) Identify and remove systemic barriers that prevent students from transferring between consortium institutions; and

“(B) Assist students transferring between consortium institutions.

“(2) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall provide a pilot program grant to the consortium to assist the public post-secondary institutions of education in Klamath County, Jackson County and Josephine County with expanding the effectiveness and scope of the consortium.

“(3) Funding provided by the commission under subsection (2) of this section shall be used to:

“(a) Provide funding for navigators.

“(b) Explore the feasibility of shared recruitment and admission into programs at consortium institutions.

“(c) Develop benchmarks and metrics to measure the success of a collaborative consor-
tium approach for public post-secondary education in Klamath County, Jackson County and Josephine County, including:

“(A) The percentage of rural, first generation, low income, veteran and underserved racial and ethnic populations that are served;
“(B) Term-to-term graduation rates for students enrolled at consortium institutions; and
“(C) The rate at which students enrolled at consortium institutions participate in high technology or other next-generation apprenticeships.
“(4) No later than February 1, 2021, the consortium shall present to the commission findings on:
“(a) Progress made by the consortium under the benchmarks and metrics developed under subsection (3)(c) of this section; and
“(b) Any identified opportunities for and barriers to using a collaborative consortium approach for public post-secondary education.
“(5) The commission shall provide a report detailing the findings presented to the commission under subsection (4) of this section to the committees of the Legislative Assembly related to higher education, in the manner provided under ORS 192.245, on or before March 1, 2021.

“SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2019 Act is repealed on January 2, 2022.

“SECTION 3. 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 $500,000, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of section 1 of this 2019 Act.

“SECTION 4. 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 on its passage.”.