A-Engrossed

Senate Bill 158

Ordered by the Senate April 15
Including Senate Amendments dated April 15

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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.

Directs Higher Education Coordinating Commission to [develop and] collaborate with community colleges and public universities to implement pilot program to assist foster youth transitioning from community colleges to public universities. Establishes criteria for pilot program.

Authorizes [issuance of] use of lottery [bonds] funds to finance programs developed under pilot program to assist foster youth transitioning from community colleges to public universities. Creates Foster Youth Promise Support Program Fund. Continuously appropriates moneys in fund to commission. Directs commission to use moneys in fund to finance programs developed under pilot program to assist foster youth transitioning from community colleges to public universities.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to support programs for students receiving foster youth tuition waiver; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, “Foster Youth Promise student” means a student enrolled in a community college or a public university listed in ORS 352.002 who is entitled to a waiver of all tuition and fees under ORS 350.300.

(2) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall collaborate with community colleges and public universities to implement a pilot program to assist Foster Youth Promise students transitioning from community colleges to public universities.

(3) The pilot program must:

(a) Be implemented in each community college and public university that has existing support programs for Foster Youth Promise students; and

(b) Develop and implement additional support programs for Foster Youth Promise students, including but not limited to:

(A) Facilitating public university orientations tailored to Foster Youth Promise students;

(B) Developing mentorship programs for Foster Youth Promise students following matriculation into a public university;

(C) Encouraging faculty at public universities to identify opportunities for Foster Youth Promise students to assist with research and other special projects; and

(D) Developing other types of programs and strategies to assist Foster Youth Promise students.

(4) The commission shall:

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.

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(a) Analyze the existing support programs offered to Foster Youth Promise students by community colleges and public universities;
(b) Coordinate alignment of the existing support programs offered to Foster Youth Promise students between community colleges and public universities; and
(c) Coordinate private fund-raising efforts to provide Foster Youth Promise students with additional financial support.

SECTION 2. The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall report on the efficacy of the pilot program established under section 1 of this 2019 Act, in the manner provided in ORS 192.245, to the committees of the Legislative Assembly related to higher education at least once during each of five consecutive regular sessions of the Legislative Assembly, beginning with the 2020 regular session of the Legislative Assembly.

SECTION 3. (1) As used in this section and section 4 of this 2019 Act, “Foster Youth Promise student” has the meaning given that term in section 1 of this 2019 Act.
(2) The Legislative Assembly finds that assisting Foster Youth Promise students who intend to transition from community colleges to public universities as part of the pilot program established under section 1 of this 2019 Act will:
(a) Help Foster Youth Promise students succeed in their educational endeavors;
(b) Positively impact the educational and career prospects of both current and future Foster Youth Promise students; and
(c) Strengthen the efficacy of the tuition waiver provided to current and former foster youth under ORS 350.300.
(3) The factors described in subsection (2) of this section will encourage and promote economic development within the State of Oregon, and the pilot program is therefore an appropriate use of state lottery funds under Article XV, section 4, of the Oregon Constitution, and ORS 461.510.
(4) There is allocated for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, from the Administrative Services Economic Development Fund, to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, the amount of $______ for deposit in the Foster Youth Promise Support Program Fund established under section 4 of this 2019 Act, to be used for the purposes described in section 4 of this 2019 Act.

SECTION 4. (1) The Foster Youth Promise Support Program Fund is established, separate and distinct from the General Fund. The moneys in the Foster Youth Promise Support Program Fund and the interest earnings on moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for the purposes described in subsection (2) of this section. The fund consists of moneys deposited in the fund under section 3 of this 2019 Act and may include other fees, revenues or other income transferred into the fund by the Legislative Assembly for payment of costs incurred to establish the Foster Youth Promise Support Program Fund.
(2) Moneys in the fund are available for immediate distribution to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to pay the costs incurred to fund programs to assist Foster Youth Promise students transitioning from community colleges to public universities as part of the pilot program established under section 1 of this 2019 Act.

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 on its passage.