A-Bill for an Act

Relating to prison education; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Prison Education is established, consisting of 16 members appointed as follows:
(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint two members from among members of the Senate. The appointed members may not belong to the same political party.
(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two members from among members of the House of Representatives. The appointed members may not belong to the same political party.
(c) The Governor shall appoint:
(A) One member representing the office of the Governor;
(B) One member representing the Employment Department;
(C) One member representing community colleges;
(D) One member representing four-year colleges;
(E) One member representing the Higher Education Coordinating Commission;
(F) One member representing the Department of Corrections;
(G) One member representing Oregon Corrections Enterprises;
(H) One member representing Oregon businesses;
(I) One member representing building trades;
(J) One male individual who was formerly incarcerated;
(K) One female individual who was formerly incarcerated; and
(L) One member with expertise in community reentry for former prisoners.
(2) The task force shall study the following:
(a) Existing prisoner education and training programs provided by prisons, Oregon Corrections Enterprises and volunteers;

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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(b) Barriers to access to such programs, including space and budget limitations; and
(c) Options and opportunities for expanding, updating and improving such programs.
(3) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction
of business.
(4) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members
of the task force.
(5) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.
(6) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-
ment to become immediately effective.
(7) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson
or of a majority of the members of the task force.
(8) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.
(9) The task force shall submit a report, which may include recommendations for legis-
lation, to the standing or interim committees of the Legislative Assembly with subject mat-
ter jurisdiction over the judiciary no later than September 15, 2020.
(10) The Legislative Policy and Research Director shall provide staff support to the task
force.
(11) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not
entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers on the task
force.
(12) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
the task force in the performance of its duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating
to confidentiality, to furnish such information and advice as the members of the task force
consider necessary to perform their duties.

SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2019 Act is repealed on December 31, 2020.

SECTION 3. 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.

[2]