

A-Engrossed
House Bill 4160

Ordered by the House February 7
Including House Amendments dated February 7

Sponsored by Representative ALONSO LEON, Senator MANNING JR, Representatives BYNUM, MEEK, Senators DEMBROW, WAGNER; Representatives HELM, HERNANDEZ, HOLVEY, KENY-GUYER, LAWRENCE SPENCE, LIVELY, MITCHELL, NERON, NOSSE, PILUSO, POWER, REARDON, SALINAS, SOLLMAN, WILDE, WILLIAMS, Senators FREDERICK, GELSNER, GOLDEN, HASS, MONNES ANDERSON, ROBLAN (Presession 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.

Establishes Task Force on Student Success for Underrepresented Students in Higher Education. Directs task force to develop student success policy proposals focusing on increasing likelihood of student success in higher education for students from populations that are underrepresented in higher education enrollment.

Sunsets task force on December 31, 2021.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to underrepresented students at public post-secondary institutions of education; and de-
3 claring an emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Student Success for Underrepresented Students in**
6 **Higher Education is established.**

7 **(2) The task force consists of eight members appointed as follows:**

8 **(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint four members from among members of the**
9 **Senate.**

10 **(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint four members from among**
11 **members of the House of Representatives.**

12 **(3) The task force shall visit public institutions of education in this state for the purpose**
13 **of meeting with stakeholders representing populations and student populations who are**
14 **underrepresented in the student bodies of these institutions, including but not limited to**
15 **populations and student populations who:**

16 **(a) Are from communities of color;**

17 **(b) Are students from rural communities in this state;**

18 **(c) Are from low-income families;**

19 **(d) Have any disability, including physical or developmental disabilities;**

20 **(e) Experience or have experienced mental health issues;**

21 **(f) Identify as members of the LGBTQ+ community;**

22 **(g) Are parents;**

23 **(h) Are adult learners;**

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 (i) Are current foster children or former foster children as defined in ORS 350.300;

2 (j) Have earned a diploma or certificate for passing a high school equivalency test such
3 as the General Educational Development (GED) test; and

4 (k) Are first-generation students.

5 (4) Based on conversations with students described in subsection (3) of this section, the
6 task force shall develop student success policy proposals and recommendations, including
7 budgetary, for the 2021 regular session of the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly. Policy pro-
8 posals developed under this section shall focus on increasing the likelihood of student success
9 in higher education for students described in subsection (3) of this section by addressing:

10 (a) Access, including student admissions, placement, funding and preparations in high
11 school regarding college readiness;

12 (b) Affordability, including scholarships, state and federal financial aid, family contribu-
13 tions and overall cost of being a student;

14 (c) Retention, including culturally responsive student support, student services, increased
15 diversity of faculty and professional development or capacity building, housing needs, food
16 insecurity, child care costs, health care costs, mental health care access and counseling;

17 (d) Graduation, including graduation timelines, career counseling, career planning and
18 the level of debt incurred by students; and

19 (e) Entry into the workforce, including internships, certificates and apprenticeships, job
20 and career placement, the correlation between degrees received and jobs entered into and the
21 correlation between the amount a student pays for a degree and the salary received by the
22 student upon graduation.

23 (5) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction
24 of business.

25 (6) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members
26 of the task force.

27 (7) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

28 (8) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-
29 ment to become immediately effective.

30 (9) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson
31 or of a majority of the members of the task force.

32 (10) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

33 (11) In addition to the tasks described in subsections (3) and (4) of this section, the task
34 force may pre-session file legislation in the manner provided in ORS 171.130 for interim
35 committees. All legislation recommended by official action of the task force must indicate
36 that it is introduced at the request of the task force.

37 (12) The task force shall submit a draft report of its findings and any student success
38 policy proposals and recommendations developed under this section to an interim committee
39 of the Legislative Assembly related to higher education in the manner provided in ORS
40 192.245 no later than September 1, 2020, and a final report to an interim committee of the
41 Legislative Assembly related to higher education in the manner provided in ORS 192.245 no
42 later than December 1, 2020.

43 (13) The Legislative Policy and Research Director may employ persons necessary for the
44 performance of the functions of the task force. The Legislative Policy and Research Director
45 shall fix the duties and amounts of compensation of the employees. The task force shall use

1 the services of continuing legislative staff, without employing additional persons, to the
2 greatest extent practicable. The task force may engage the services of translators as needed.

3 (14) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
4 the task force in the performance of the duties of the task force and, to the extent permitted
5 by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task
6 force consider necessary to perform their duties.

7 (15) The task force shall consult with the office of the Governor.

8 (16) As used in this section:

9 (a) "Communities of color" means members of the following racial or ethnic communi-
10 ties:

11 (A) African Americans;

12 (B) Alaskan Natives;

13 (C) American Indians;

14 (D) Individuals of Asian descent;

15 (E) Individuals of Hispanic or Latino descent;

16 (F) Individuals of Middle Eastern descent;

17 (G) Native Hawaiians or Pacific Islanders; or

18 (H) Other members of racial or ethnic minorities and indigenous populations.

19 (b) "Students from rural communities" means first-time freshmen resident undergradu-
20 ate students who are graduates of high schools designated by the National Education Sta-
21 tistics locale codes as Rural — Distant, Rural — Fringe, Rural — Remote, Town — Distant,
22 Town — Fringe or Town — Remote.

23 SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2020 Act is repealed on December 31, 2021.

24 SECTION 3. This 2020 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
25 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2020 Act takes effect
26 on its passage.

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