

SB 77 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 2/8, 2/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Replaces Oregon Volunteers Commission for Voluntary Action and Service with OregonServes Commission. Designates OregonServes Commission as AmeriCorps service commission for Oregon. Modifies membership and responsibilities of OregonServes Commission. Repeals requirements for volunteer screening guidelines. Repeals Oregon Volunteer and Community Service Act. Moves grant program for architecture, construction and engineering education pilot projects from Office of Community Colleges and Workforce Development to Higher Education Coordinating Commission. Requires Higher Education Coordinating Commission to prepare annual report concerning plant closings and mass layoffs. Modifies abilities of Oregon Youth Corps program director. Changes deadline for annual report on Oregon National Career Readiness Certification Program. Requires community colleges to meet accreditation requirements set by Higher Education Coordinating Commission before awarding certificate or degree relating to emergency medical services.

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

REVENUE: No revenue impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Necessity of regular program name changes
- Updates to conform with existing statutes

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Removes "citizen" terminology in statute and replaces references to "citizen involvement" with "civic engagement". Replaces references to the Corporation for National and Community Service with AmeriCorps.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Volunteers Commission for Voluntary Action and Service ("Oregon Volunteers"), created in 2001, is defined in law as the successor to the Oregon Commission for National and Community Service, which was formed in response to the federal National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993. Oregon Volunteers is charged with promoting volunteerism and community service in Oregon. It also administers the Oregon activities of AmeriCorps. In 2007, the Legislature passed Senate Bill 60, known as the Oregon Volunteer and Community Service Act, which required Oregon Volunteers to submit an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature on the current status of volunteerism in Oregon and any legislative policy proposals. In 2017, House Bill 3470 moved Oregon Volunteers from the Housing and Community Services Department to the Office of the Governor. Later, House Bills 5201 and 4163 (2018) moved Oregon Volunteers to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC), where it is currently housed in the Office of Workforce Investments.

Senate Bill 77 replaces the Oregon Volunteers Commission for Voluntary Action and Service with the OregonServes Commission and makes changes to its membership and responsibilities. It also repeals the Oregon Volunteer and Community Service Act and guidelines for volunteer screening. Senate Bill 77 also modifies the Higher Education Coordinating Commission's responsibilities and requires community colleges that award certificates or degrees in emergency medical services to comply with accreditation requirements