

## **HB 2919 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

### **House Committee On Education**

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**Prepared By:** Matt Perreault, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 2/25

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#### **WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Requires each public university and community college to prominently display the total costs of all required course materials and fees for at least 75 percent of courses offered. Specifies requirements for display of affected courses. Requires Higher Education Coordinating Commission to adopt list of materials exempt from this requirement. Requires each public university and community college to report on affected courses to Higher Education Coordinating Commission. Applies requirements first to 2022-2023 academic year.

*REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued*

*FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued*

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

#### **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Many college and university courses require enrolled students to pay additional fees or purchase instructional materials at their own expense. These required instructional materials include textbooks, study guides, software, and lab equipment. The cost of required materials may significantly increase the overall cost of attendance. Currently each public university and community college publishes an estimate on the annual total cost of attendance, which includes course materials.

In 2015, the Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 2871, which required public universities and community colleges to prominently designate courses whose required materials are exclusively low-cost or no-cost, along with other provisions related to open educational resources. With the passage of HB 2729 (2017), this became part of Oregon's Open Educational Resources (OER) Program, which sets guidelines and requirements for course materials that are free, low-cost, or exist in the public domain. House Bill 2213 (2019) required that each public university and community college establish a textbook affordability plan.

House Bill 2919 requires each public university and community college to prominently display the total costs of all required course materials and fees for at least 75 percent of courses offered and specifies requirements for applicable and exempt courses, and requires colleges and universities to report to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission on compliance with this requirement.