

HB 2590 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

Prepared By: Matt Perreault, LPRO Analyst

Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/4, 3/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes Task Force on Student Success for Underrepresented Students. Requires task force to visit and consult with higher education students to develop policy proposals that increase likelihood of academic success for students who are underrepresented in student bodies. Specifies that task force meet with students who are underrepresented and diverse as defined in statute, are from rural communities, are from low-income families, have physical or learning disabilities. Specifies membership and responsibilities of task force. Allows task force to submit proposals directly to interim legislative committees. Requires task force to submit report to Legislative Assembly by December 15, 2022. Directs all state government agencies to assist task force in its duties. Sunsets December 31, 2023. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

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

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

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Demographics of higher education student bodies
- Challenges facing underrepresented and first-generation students
- Need for trauma counseling and other services
- Socioeconomic mobility for first-generation students

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Replaces measure. Establishes Task Force on Student Success for Underrepresented Students. Requires task force to visit and consult with higher education students, faculty, staff, and community partners to develop policy proposals that increase likelihood of academic success for underrepresented students. Specifies that task force meet with students who are underrepresented and diverse, are from rural communities, are from low-income families, experience disabilities, identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, two-spirit, intersex, asexual, nonbinary, or other gender identity or sexual orientation, are undocumented, and have been in foster care. Specifies membership and responsibilities of task force. Allows task force to create subcommittees and submit proposals directly to interim legislative committees. Requires task force to submit report to Legislative Assembly by December 15, 2022. Directs all public bodies to assist task force in its duties. Sunsets December 31, 2023. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon law defines people who are underrepresented or diverse as people who identify as Black, Hispanic, Asian, Pacific Islander, American Indian, Alaskan Native, or whose first language is not English. According to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, the share of students from these communities at public universities and community colleges has grown each year.

House Bill 2590 charges a task force with visiting public universities and community colleges to meet with students from populations that are underrepresented in student bodies as compared to Oregon's population. These groups are specified as people who are underrepresented as defined in ORS 342.120, people who are diverse as defined in ORS 342.433, people from rural communities in Oregon, people from low-income families,

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.

and people who have physical or learning disabilities.

PRELIMINARY