

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 233 - 3

81st Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2021 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*

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Date: 04/12/2021

Measure Description:

Requires Higher Education Coordinating Commission to establish common course numbering system for all introductory and lower level courses offered at public post-secondary institutions of education.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Community Colleges, Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC), Public Universities

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure may require budgetary action - See analysis.

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

| | 2021-23 Biennium | 2023-25 Biennium |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| General Fund | \$831,429 | \$548,100 |
| Total Funds | \$831,429 | \$548,100 |
| Positions | 3 | 3 |
| FTE | 1.75 | 2.50 |

Analysis: Requires Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to establish common course numbering system for all introductory and lower level courses offered at public post-secondary institutions of education. The -3 amendment requires HECC to provide staff and logistical support for a 15-member Transfer Council. The Council is required to meet at a minimum of every 3 months. Additionally, due to the technical requirements of this work there will be at a minimum four sub committees and a maximum of 15 going at any given time. This measure would also require HECC to appoint, stand up, manage and maintain a new 15-person council made up of K-12 partners, students, and higher education partners.

HECC estimates needing one Education Specialist 2 (0.75 FTE) to convene and facilitate the Transfer Council, track reporting and deadlines, manage rule adoption, provide analysis of Transfer Council recommendations, provide policy analysis on unified transfer agreements, and manage the report due to the legislature. One Research Analyst 4 (0.25 FTE) is needed to identify baseline data and objective measures of success, provide detailed data on course prioritization, ensure compliance of course catalog deadlines, and consolidate data for all 24 institutions as required by the measure. One executive Support Specialist (0.75 FTE) is needed to provide administrative support to the Transfer Council, schedule and support meetings, assist the Education Specialist 2 in tracking, documenting and submitting Transfer Council recommendations. In addition, HECC estimates it will need \$428,000 General Fund for a business operation consulting firm to prioritize communications, outline best practices, address process and implementation concerns, and write a Request for Proposal for an electronic transfer system.

Universities estimate they will need \$100,000 and \$200,000 per college per biennium to cover faculty release time, Information Technology resources for coding, registrar time to update catalogs, and to update articulation agreements. Universities estimate the cost in 2021-23 biennium will be \$672,761 and ongoing costs of \$273,795 per year. Community colleges would likely see similar costs as the public universities. These costs are not included in the table above.

This measure warrants a subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for consideration of its budgetary impact on the State's General Fund.