

SB 564 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**Carrier:** Sen. Gelser**Senate Committee On Education**

Action Date: 03/15/21
Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)
Vote: 3-2-0-0
Yeas: 3 - Dembrow, Gelser, Gorsek
Nays: 2 - Robinson, Thomsen
Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact
Revenue: No revenue impact
Prepared By: Matt Perreault, LPRO Analyst
Meeting Dates: 3/1, 3/15

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Higher Education Coordinating Commission to establish by rule format and process for public colleges and universities to collect data on students who are parents or are acting as a parent or legal guardian. Requires public colleges and universities to supply data to Higher Education Coordinating Commission. Allows public post-secondary institutions to continue to use existing forms for collecting demographic data from students without updating forms to comply with requirement. Clarifies that requirement applies to forms created for 2022-2023 academic year. Requires Higher Education Coordinating Commission to submit report on summarized data and progress toward compliance to Legislative Assembly. Mandates that changes apply for 2022-2023 academic year. Empowers Higher Education Coordinating Commission to act in preparation for changes to take effect for 2022-2023 academic year.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Challenges faced by students who are parents
- Services offered to student parents
- Need for data to assess effectiveness of services offered
- Retention of student parents
- Socioeconomic mobility of student parents who graduate
- Whether other states collect similar data

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Allows public post-secondary institutions to continue to use existing forms for collecting demographic data from students without updating forms to comply with requirement. Clarifies that requirement applies to forms created for 2022-2023 academic year.

BACKGROUND:

According to the U.S. Department of Education, roughly one quarter of undergraduate students nationwide are also raising children. Rates of timely graduation for these student parents tend to be much lower than average. Student parents are also more likely to be women than men, to be older than nonparent students, and to attend community colleges rather than four-year universities.

Senate Bill 564 A requires the collection of data on student parents at Oregon's public colleges and universities.