A-Engrossed House Bill 2542

Ordered by the House March 29 Including House Amendments dated March 29

Sponsored by Representative REARDON, Senator PATTERSON, Representative DRAZAN; Representatives CLEM, LEIF, SMITH DB, SOLLMAN, WEBER, WRIGHT (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Requires each public university and community college to prominently display mandatory fees charged. Requires each public university and community college to provide annual report to Higher Education Coordinating Commission detailing compliance with requirement.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

- Relating to disclosure of mandatory fees at public institutions of higher education.
- 3 Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:
 - SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, "mandatory fee" means a fee of general applicability to students, whether full-time or part-time, that is required prior to matriculation or taking courses, including a fee proposed by a recognized student government.
 - (2) Each public university listed in ORS 352.002 or community college shall prominently display, as provided in subsection (3) of this section, a description of every mandatory fee charged by the public university or community college.
 - (3) A mandatory fee required to be displayed under this section must be published on each public university's or community college's public website and online student portal prior to the term for which the mandatory fee will be charged and included in any tuition bill. The amount of the mandatory fee must be accompanied by a description of:
 - (a) The general purpose of the mandatory fee;
 - (b) How the mandatory fee will be allocated and used; and
 - (c) If the mandatory fee will be collected for a limited duration, the beginning and end dates for collecting the mandatory fee.
 - (4) No later than September 1 of each year, each public university and community college shall report to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission on the public university's or community college's collection of mandatory fees. The report must include:
 - (a) A description of the public university's or community college's efforts to display mandatory fees as required by this section;
 - (b) A description of each use or recipient that a mandatory fee is applied to;
 - (c) The amount of any fee moneys that were transferred during the preceding academic year to a recipient or use other than the recipient or use that the fee was collected for and an explanation of the reason for the transfer; and
 - (d) A financial overview that includes:

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- (A) The total amount of mandatory fees collected for the preceding academic year, by term;
- (B) The total amount of expenses for the preceding academic year that are of a type to which mandatory fee moneys were applied; and
- (C) The ending balances for the funds or accounts in which mandatory fees are maintained and an explanation of the balances for the three preceding academic years.
 - SECTION 2. (1) Section 1 of this 2021 Act first applies to the 2021-2022 academic year.
- (2) Notwithstanding section 1 (4)(d)(C) of this 2021 Act, in the reports under section 1 (4) of this 2021 Act for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 academic years, a public university or community college may report the ending balance of any fund or account in which mandatory fees are maintained and an explanation of the balance for the preceding academic year only.