

A-Engrossed
House Bill 2590

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

Sponsored by Representative ALONSO LEON, Senators DEMBROW, WAGNER; Representatives BYNUM, GRAYBER, HERNANDEZ, HUDSON, NERON, PHAM, REARDON, RUIZ, SOLLMAN, Senators FREDERICK, GOLDEN (Pre-session 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.

Establishes Task Force on Student Success for Underrepresented Students in Higher Education. Directs task force to develop student success policy **and funding** proposals focusing on increasing likelihood of student success in higher education for students from populations that are underrepresented in higher education enrollment.

Sunsets task force on December 31, 2023.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to underrepresented students at public post-secondary institutions of education; and de-
3 claring an emergency.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Student Success for Underrepresented Students in**
6 **Higher Education is established.**

7 **(2) The task force consists of eight members appointed as follows:**

8 **(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint four members from among members of the**
9 **Senate.**

10 **(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint four members from among**
11 **members of the House of Representatives.**

12 **(3) The task force shall visit public post-secondary institutions of education in this state**
13 **for the purpose of meeting with prospective, current and former students from populations**
14 **that are underrepresented in the student bodies of these institutions, including students who:**

15 **(a) Qualify as an underrepresented person as defined in ORS 342.120;**

16 **(b) Qualify as diverse as defined in ORS 342.433;**

17 **(c) Are from rural communities in this state;**

18 **(d) Are from low-income families;**

19 **(e) Experience disability, including intellectual developmental disabilities;**

20 **(f) Identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, two-spirit, intersex, asexual,**
21 **nonbinary or another minority gender identity or sexual orientation;**

22 **(g) Are undocumented; and**

23 **(h) Have been a foster child.**

24 **(4) The task force shall meet with faculty, staff and community partners who support**
25 **underrepresented students through academic and student service programming.**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **(5) Based on conversations with the students and parties described in subsections (3) and**
2 **(4) of this section, and in consultation with subcommittees with subject matter expertise**
3 **created under subsection (12) of this section, the task force shall develop student success**
4 **policy and funding proposals for the 2023 regular session of the Legislative Assembly. Policy**
5 **proposals developed under this section shall focus on increasing the likelihood of student**
6 **success in higher education for students described in subsection (3) of this section by ad-**
7 **dresssing:**

8 **(a) Access, including recruitment, admissions, placement, cost of attendance, financial**
9 **aid and funding;**

10 **(b) Retention, including student support, student services, transfer programs, increased**
11 **diversity of faculty, housing needs, food insecurity, child care costs, health care costs, men-**
12 **tal health care access and counseling;**

13 **(c) Graduation, including time to degree, career readiness and student debt; and**

14 **(d) Entry into the workforce, including internships, advanced and continuing education,**
15 **job and career placement, assessment on the return on investment for attaining a post-**
16 **secondary degree, the correlation between degrees awarded and job placement and the cor-**
17 **relation between student costs for higher education and earnings after graduation.**

18 **(6) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction**
19 **of business.**

20 **(7) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members**
21 **of the task force.**

22 **(8) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.**

23 **(9) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-**
24 **ment to become immediately effective.**

25 **(10) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson**
26 **or of a majority of the members of the task force.**

27 **(11) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.**

28 **(12) In addition to the tasks described in subsections (3) to (5) of this section, the task**
29 **force may:**

30 **(a) Create one or more subcommittees of subject matter expertise for the purpose of**
31 **advising the task force on how to best fulfill its duties. The task force may appoint any in-**
32 **dividual as a member of a subcommittee under this section. A subcommittee member is not**
33 **entitled to vote as a member of the task force.**

34 **(b) Pre-session file legislation in the manner provided in ORS 171.130 for interim com-**
35 **mittees. All legislation recommended by official action of the task force must indicate that**
36 **it is introduced at the request of the task force.**

37 **(13) The task force shall report its findings and any student success policy proposals de-**
38 **veloped under this section to the Legislative Assembly in the manner provided in ORS 192.245**
39 **no later than December 15, 2022.**

40 **(14) The Legislative Policy and Research Director may employ persons necessary for the**
41 **performance of the functions of the task force. The Legislative Policy and Research Director**
42 **shall fix the duties and amounts of compensation of the employees. The task force shall use**
43 **the services of continuing legislative staff, without employing additional persons, to the**
44 **greatest extent practicable.**

45 **(15) All public bodies, as defined in ORS 174.109, are directed to assist the task force in**

1 **the performance of the duties of the task force and, to the extent permitted by laws relating**
2 **to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task force consider**
3 **necessary to perform their duties.**

4 **SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2021 Act is repealed on December 31, 2023.**

5 **SECTION 3. This 2021 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
6 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2021 Act takes effect**
7 **on its passage.**

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