A-Bill for an Act
House Bill 3236
Ordered by the House March 25
Including House Amendments dated March 25
Sponsored by Representatives ALONSO LEON, OWENS; Representatives HELM, HUDSON, LEIF, NERON, SANCHEZ, SMITH DB, SOLLMAN, Senator PATTERSON

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.


A BILL FOR AN ACT
Relating to education pathways; and prescribing an effective date.
Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:
SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Education Pathways is established.
(2) The task force consists of four members appointed as follows:
(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint two members from among members of the Senate.
(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two members from among members of the House of Representatives.
(3) The task force shall review the adequacy and effectiveness of education pathways that are alternatives to the traditional education pathway offered by a public school of a school district. The review may include the following education programs:
(a) Public charter schools;
(b) Alternative education programs;
(c) The Juvenile Detention Education Program and the Youth Corrections Education Program;
(d) Preparation programs for an approved high school equivalency test, such as the General Educational Development (GED) test; and
(e) Any other education program identified by the task force.
(4) When reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of a program identified in subsection (3) of this section, the task force shall consider:
(a) The state funding formula for the program;
(b) The adequacy of funding for the program, based both on the individual program and the program as part of this state's public education system;
(c) The resources provided to students of the program, including academic and nonacademic supports and other wraparound services;
(d) The accessibility, availability and quality of the program;

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.

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(e) The staffing of the program, including the student-to-teacher ratio and the percentage of licensed educators directly teaching to the students of the program;
(f) The transparency and accountability of the program, both in relation to funding and to outcomes; and
(g) The adherence of the program to this state’s educational goals of equity, diversity and inclusion.
(5) When performing the duties of the task force, the task force:
(a) Shall invite and consider the input of students, parents and educators; and
(b) May establish work groups composed of experts in the delivery of education, education policy, school finance, educator licensure and education policy research.
(6) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.
(7) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members of the task force.
(8) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.
(9) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appointment to become immediately effective.
(10) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson or of a majority of the members of the task force.
(11) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.
(12) The task force may presession file legislation in the manner provided in ORS 171.130 for interim committees. All legislation recommended by official action of the task force must indicate that it is introduced at the request of the task force.
(13) The task force shall report to the Legislative Assembly in the manner provided in ORS 192.245 at any time within 30 days after its final meeting or at a time the President and Speaker designate.
(14) The Legislative Policy and Research Director may employ persons necessary for the performance of the functions of the task force. The Legislative Policy and Research Director shall fix the duties and amounts of compensation of the employees. The task force shall use the services of continuing legislative staff, without employing additional persons, to the greatest extent practicable.
(15) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist the task force in the performance of the duties of the task force and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task force consider necessary to perform their duties.
(16) To aid and advise the task force in the performance of the functions of the task force, the task force may establish any advisory and technical committees the task force considers necessary, including separate committees for each of the education programs reviewed by the task force. The chairperson shall determine the representation, membership, terms and organization of the committees and shall appoint the members of the committees.

SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2021 Act is repealed on December 31, 2022.

SECTION 3. This 2021 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2021 regular session of the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.