

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**Measure: HB 2615**

82nd Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2023 Regular Session

Legislative Fiscal Office

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

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Measure Description:

Allows veterans to participate in Oregon Promise program if first enrolled in classes within 12 months after discharge from military.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Higher Education Coordinating Commission, Community Colleges

Analysis:

This fiscal impact statement is for the purpose of transmitting the measure from the House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

House Bill 2615 allows veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States to participate in the Oregon Promise Grant program, beginning with the 2024-25 academic year. The measure allows eligible veterans to apply for the Oregon Promise Grant program and enroll at an Oregon community college within 12 months of their separation from military service. The measure also allows veterans to attend an Oregon community under the Oregon Promise Grant program without having to use their federal G.I. Bill benefits. If veterans choose to use their G.I. bill benefits, the amount they receive under the Oregon Promise Grant will not be reduced by the amount they receive under the G.I. Bill.

Due to time constraints, the Legislative Fiscal Office has not yet fully analyzed the fiscal impact of this measure to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC). HECC reports in its preliminary estimates that it will need \$4,555,357 General Fund above its 2023-25 current service level budget to administer the Oregon Promise Grant program to eligible veterans. This assumes \$4,425,000 in special payments to make the grant payments to eligible veterans and \$130,357 in personal services and supplies to hire one Program Analyst 2 (0.50 FTE) to process grant applications, conduct outreach, and support administration of the Oregon Promise Grant program.

A more complete fiscal analysis on the measure will be prepared as the measure is considered in the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

Further Analysis Required