HB 2265 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Higher Education

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Meeting Dates: 3/23, 3/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to study how to increase percentage of students who graduate from public university in four years. Requires HECC to submit report to Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2024.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of amendment
- Low state investment in higher education relative to other states
- Cost of attendance for in-state students

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Establishes Task Force on Funding Post-Secondary Education. Establishes task force membership. Requires task force to review how higher education is funded in Oregon, to compare higher education funding model in Oregon to other states, to make recommendations on methods for Legislative Assembly to increase funding for post-secondary institutions of education, and to demonstrate how increase in funding can stabilize tuition rates. Requires task force to submit report to Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2024. Requires Higher Education Coordinating Commission and Legislative Revenue Office to provide staff support.

BACKGROUND:

The Joint Task Force on Student Success for Underrepresented Students in Higher Education (JTUSHE) was a bicameral legislative task force established by House Bill 2590 (2021). The measure charged the task force with visiting public post-secondary institutions of education in order to meet with current, former, and prospective students from underrepresented backgrounds, and with developing policy and funding proposals that focus on increasing the likelihood of student success for underrepresented students in the areas of access, retention, graduation, and entry into the workforce. The task force approved its Report on Findings and Recommendations for 2023 Legislative Session on December 13, 2022. House Bill 2262 was among the legislation that the task force presession filed in accordance with the authority granted by House Bill 2590 (2021).

House Bill 2265 requires the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to study how to increase the percentage of students who graduate from public universities within four years and requires HECC to submit a report to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2024.