

House Bill 2802

Sponsored by Representatives SOSA, RUIZ, Senator DEMBROW; Representatives HUDSON, SMITH G (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 **as introduced**.

Establishes pilot program at Portland State University and Eastern Oregon University to enhance hiring of public university students by nonprofit organizations. Requires Portland State University and Eastern Oregon University to submit reports to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to higher education by September 15 of each year.

Appropriates moneys for purposes of conducting program.

Sunsets program on January 2, 2028.

Declares emergency, effective on July 1, 2023.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to post-secondary students working at nonprofit corporations; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall establish a pilot**
5 **program at Portland State University and Eastern Oregon University to enhance the hiring**
6 **of public university students by eligible nonprofit organizations.**

7 **(2) Under the pilot program:**

8 **(a) One or more individuals designated as pilot program administrators at each partic-**
9 **ipating public university shall register:**

10 **(A) Enrolled students at the participating public university who wish to participate in the**
11 **pilot program; and**

12 **(B) Eligible nonprofit organizations that wish to participate in the pilot program;**

13 **(b) The pilot program administrators shall match students who register under paragraph**
14 **(a)(A) of this subsection with eligible nonprofit organizations that register under paragraph**
15 **(a)(B) of this subsection and shall match each student, to the degree practicable, with an**
16 **organization that operates in a field relevant to the student's course of study;**

17 **(c) The eligible nonprofit organization shall employ each student that it is matched with**
18 **for between 10 and 20 hours per week;**

19 **(d) The eligible nonprofit organization shall pay each employed student wages at an**
20 **hourly rate not less than the Oregon minimum wage; and**

21 **(e) For each academic term in which a student is employed by an eligible nonprofit or-**
22 **ganization under this section, the student's cost of tuition at the participating public uni-**
23 **versity shall be reduced by 20 percent.**

24 **(3) If a student who is employed by an eligible nonprofit organization under the pilot**
25 **program stops working for the organization during an academic term:**

26 **(a) The student shall continue to receive the discounted tuition described in subsection**
27 **(2)(e) of this section for that academic term; and**

28 **(b) The student may not participate in the pilot program during the following academic**

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 term.

2 (4) Each participating public university shall adopt policies relating to the administration
3 of the pilot program, including but not limited to:

4 (a) How enrolled students and eligible nonprofit organizations can apply to participate in
5 the pilot program;

6 (b) The number of enrolled students and eligible nonprofit organizations that can partic-
7 ipate in the pilot program during each academic term; and

8 (c) Subject to subsection (5)(b) of this section, the rate at which the wages paid to stu-
9 dents by eligible nonprofit organizations under this section will be subsidized.

10 (5) Participating public universities may use moneys appropriated by the Legislative As-
11 sembly for the purposes of conducting the pilot program:

12 (a) To offset the reduction in tuition moneys received by participating public universities
13 resulting from the participating public universities' participation in the pilot program;

14 (b) To reimburse eligible nonprofit organizations that participate in the pilot program no
15 more than 50 percent of the amount the eligible nonprofit organizations paid in wages to
16 students who participate in the pilot program; and

17 (c) For expenses incurred by participating public universities in administering the pilot
18 program.

19 (6) No later than September 15 of each year, each participating public university shall
20 evaluate the effectiveness of the pilot program described in this section and submit, in the
21 manner provided by ORS 192.245, a report on the results of the evaluation to the interim
22 committees of the Legislative Assembly related to higher education.

23 (7) As used in this section:

24 (a) "Eligible nonprofit organization" means an organization that:

25 (A) Is a not-for-profit corporation that is tax exempt under section 501(c) of the Internal
26 Revenue Code; and

27 (B) Has an annual budget of \$5,000,000 or less.

28 (b) "Participating public university" means:

29 (A) Portland State University; or

30 (B) Eastern Oregon University.

31 SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2023 Act is repealed on January 2, 2028.

32 SECTION 3. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
33 ated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, for the biennium beginning July 1,
34 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$____, to be allocated to Portland State Uni-
35 versity and Eastern Oregon University for the purpose of conducting the pilot program es-
36 tablished by section 1 of this 2023 Act.

37 SECTION 4. This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
38 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect
39 on July 1, 2023.

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