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.

Directs Higher Education Coordinating Commission to develop and implement grant program to distribute grants to eligible community colleges for matching amounts for Article XI-G bonds. Sets forth eligibility criteria.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to Article XI-G bonds.

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

SECTION 1. (1) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall develop and implement a program to distribute grants to eligible community colleges. Grant moneys awarded under this section may be used by a community college only as matching amounts for Article XI-G bonds previously authorized by law for the benefit of the community college.

(2) A community college is eligible for a grant under this section if:

(a) Article XI-G bonds have been authorized by law for the benefit of the community college and the community college has not secured the matching amount required under Article XI-G of the Oregon Constitution; and

(b) At least two of the following criteria are met:

(A) The community college has made at least one unsuccessful attempt to pass a local bond measure intended to raise the matching amount for an Article XI-G bond;

(B) The relevant Article XI-G bond authorization was enacted into law at least two years prior to the date of the community college's grant application;

(C) The district operating the community college would be required, if the district levied an ad valorem tax to raise the required matching amount, to levy a mill rate that is at least 20 percent greater than the average mill rate required by all community college districts to raise the same amount; and

(D) The district operating the community college has a poverty rate that is at least five percentage points greater than the state average.

(3) The commission shall adopt rules necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

(4) As used in this section:

(a) “Article XI-G bond” means a bond issued under Article XI-G of the Oregon Constitution.

(b) “Community college” has the meaning given that term in ORS 341.005.

SECTION 2. (1) In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of $_______ to carry out the provisions of sec-
tion 1 of this 2023 Act.

(2) The Legislative Assembly designates moneys appropriated under this section as matching amounts for bonds issued under Article XI-G of the Oregon Constitution.