A-Engrossed

Senate Bill 523

Ordered by the Senate April 11
Including Senate Amendments dated April 11

Sponsored by Senators DEMBROW, BONHAM, FINDLEY, GIROD, HANSELL, MANNING JR, PATTERSON, WOODS; Senators ANDERSON, GORSEK, MEEK, SOLLMAN, WEBER (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.

Requires Higher Education Coordinating Commission plan regarding applied baccalaureate degrees to include name and type of applied baccalaureate degrees to be conferred.

Requires applied baccalaureate degree in nursing to be conferred as “Bachelor of Science: Nursing.”

Authorizes community colleges to offer Bachelor of Science: Nursing degrees. Details requirements that must be met for Higher Education Coordinating Commission to approve community college request to offer Bachelor of Science: Nursing degree program.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to degree programs; amending ORS 341.013.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 341.013 is amended to read:

341.013. (1) As used in this section:

(a) “Applied baccalaureate degree” has the meaning given that term in ORS 348.910.

(b) “Bachelor of Science: Nursing degree” means a post-licensure degree program in which individuals who have already received an associate degree in nursing receive a bachelor's degree in nursing.

(2) A community college may offer applied baccalaureate degrees and Bachelor of Science: Nursing degrees under the provisions of this section.

(3) For each applied baccalaureate degree program or Bachelor of Science: Nursing degree program a community college wants to offer to its students, the community college shall submit to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission:

(a) A description of the program to be offered;

(b) The method by which the program will be created, including any necessary accreditation by the relevant accrediting agency;

(c) Documentation of local unmet workforce needs that would be addressed by offering the program; and

(d) Documentation that the community college has the expertise, resources and student interest necessary to make the program successful.

(4) A proposed applied baccalaureate degree program or Bachelor of Science: Nursing degree program must be approved by the commission. The commission shall approve a proposed applied baccalaureate degree program or Bachelor of Science: Nursing degree program if:

(a) The community college submits all of the information and documentation required under
subsection (3) of this section; and

(b) The commission determines that the criteria set forth in ORS 350.075 (3)(g) are satisfied.

(5) The commission may adopt rules to implement this section.