A-Bill-for-an-Act

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

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2023 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 329.

SECTION 2. (1) For all public school students in grades 6 through 12, the Department of Education shall collect course-level completion and grade data.

(2) The department shall use the data collected under subsection (1) of this section to gather information about:

(a) Equity of opportunity in public education;

(b) Barriers to high school graduation; and

(c) Challenges experienced by students who transfer from one public school in this state to another.

(3) The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall ensure that the information gathered as provided by subsection (2) of this section is included on the Oregon Report Card on the state of the public schools of this state under ORS 329.115.

(4) The State Board of Education may adopt any rules necessary for the administration of this section.

SECTION 3. Section 2 of this 2023 Act first applies to the 2023-2024 school year.

SECTION 4. (1) The Task Force on High School Transcripts is established.

(2) The task force consists of 18 members appointed as follows:

(a) The Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction shall appoint nine members as follows:

(A) Three members who are employees of the Department of Education;
(B) Three members who are superintendents of school districts in this state, of which:
   (i) One is the superintendent of a rural school district; and
   (ii) One is the superintendent of a school district that consists of 50 percent or more of
        historically underrepresented students; and
(C) Three members who are school registrars, of which:
   (i) One is a school registrar for a school located in a rural school district; and
   (ii) One is a school registrar for a school that consists of 50 percent or more of histor-
        ically underrepresented students.
(b) The executive director of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall ap-
    point six members as follows:
    (A) Three members who are employees of the commission;
    (B) Three members who are representatives of post-secondary institutions of education
        in this state, of which:
        (i) One is a member who represents a community college;
        (ii) One is a member who represents a public university listed in ORS 352.002 (1) or (2);
        and
        (iii) One is a member who represents a public university listed in ORS 352.002 (3) to (7).
    (c) The Governor shall appoint three members who are parents of students who attend
        the public schools of this state, of which:
        (i) One lives in a rural school district; and
        (ii) One is a member of a historically underrepresented population.
    (3) The task force shall:
        (a) Develop recommendations for streamlining the transfer of course completion data
            when a student transfers from one kindergarten through grade 12 public school in this state
            to another kindergarten through grade 12 public school in this state.
        (b) Develop recommendations for a direct admissions policy for community colleges in
            this state and public universities listed in ORS 352.002. When developing recommendations,
            the task force must consider factors other than a student’s grade point average.
        (c) Study the need for, benefits of, potential barriers to, and options for developing a
            unified student information system for the kindergarten through grade 12 public schools of
            this state, including development of a timeline and fiscal model for implementation of at least
            two options for a unified student information system. Each option for a unified student in-
            formation system must provide for:
            (A) Ease of transfer of course completion data when a student transfers from one grade
                9 through 12 public school in this state to another grade 9 through 12 public school in this
                state; and
            (B) Implementation of a potential direct admissions policy for community colleges in this
                state and public universities listed in ORS 352.002.
        (d) Consider issues related to transcripts and grades for students in grades 9 through 12
            who have an individualized education program or who have an education plan developed in
    (4) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction
        of business.
    (5) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members
        of the task force.
(6) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

(7) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appointment to become immediately effective.

(8) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson or of a majority of the members of the task force.

(9) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

(10) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided in ORS 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to education no later than September 15, 2024.

(11) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission, with any needed assistance from the Department of Education, shall provide staff support to the task force.

(12) Members of the task force are not entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers on the task force.

(13) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist the task force in the performance of the duties of the task force and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task force consider necessary to perform their duties.

(14) In the performance of the duties of the task force, the task force shall consult with:

(a) Representatives from post-secondary institutions of education that offer a variety of academic disciplines;

(b) Representatives from kindergarten through grade 12 public schools who are experts in providing special education and related services;

(c) Parents of students who have received modified diplomas; and

(d) Parents of students who have received extended diplomas.

SECTION 5. Section 4 of this 2023 Act is repealed on December 31, 2024.

SECTION 6. This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect on its passage.