

Senate Bill 1082

Sponsored by Senators DEMBROW, FREDERICK, MANNING JR, Representatives RUIZ, SOSA; Senator PROZANSKI, Representatives HUDSON, NERON, PHAM K

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**.

Requires Higher Education Coordinating Commission to establish project connecting adults in custody and former adults in custody to community colleges, public universities and apprenticeship programs. Sets forth project requirements.

Establishes Oregon Rebound Fund to support project.

Requires commission to work with Bureau of Labor and Industries and community corrections agencies to establish statewide network to assist adults in custody and former adults in custody in enrolling in appropriate post-secondary classes, post-secondary programs and apprenticeship programs. Requires commission to hire five regional navigators to run statewide network. Details requirements of network and navigators.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to enhancing successful transitions for formerly incarcerated Oregonians; and declaring an
3 emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1. (1) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall establish a project**
6 **that connects adults in custody and former adults in custody to community colleges operated**
7 **under ORS chapter 341, public universities listed in ORS 352.002 and apprenticeship pro-**
8 **grams.**

9 **(2) The project developed under this section shall:**

10 **(a) Establish at least one institutional partnership between a public university and one**
11 **or more community colleges;**

12 **(b) Design a program that is colocated between institutions that partner under paragraph**
13 **(a) of this subsection to help adults in custody and former adults in custody:**

14 **(A) Achieve their educational and career goals;**

15 **(B) Build mentorship and leadership skills; and**

16 **(C) Navigate common obstacles to successful reentry into society that are faced by for-**
17 **mer adults in custody; and**

18 **(c) Create effective pathways for adults in custody and former adults in custody to**
19 **quickly and easily enroll in appropriate post-secondary classes, post-secondary programs and**
20 **apprenticeship programs.**

21 **(3) The commission shall ensure that the project developed under this section:**

22 **(a) Includes former adults in custody as project leaders and peer mentors; and**

23 **(b) Serves as a support center for participants throughout their studies, including for**
24 **former adults in custody who transfer from a community college to a public university that**
25 **has partnered with the community college under subsection (2)(a) of this section.**

26 **(4) The commission may adopt rules necessary for the effective implementation of this**

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 section.

2 **SECTION 2.** The Oregon Rebound Fund is established in the State Treasury, separate and
 3 distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Oregon Rebound Fund shall be
 4 credited to the fund.

5 (2) Moneys in the Oregon Rebound Fund shall consist of:

6 (a) Amounts donated to the fund from individuals or private organizations;

7 (b) Grants or monetary awards provided to the fund from any source;

8 (c) Amounts appropriated or otherwise transferred to the fund by the Legislative As-
 9 sembly; and

10 (d) Interest earned by the fund.

11 (3) Moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the Higher Education Coordi-
 12 nating Commission for the purpose of operating the project described in section 1 of this 2023
 13 Act.

14 **SECTION 3.** (1) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall work with the Bu-
 15 reau of Labor and Industries and community corrections agencies in this state to establish
 16 a statewide network to assist adults in custody and former adults in custody in enrolling in
 17 appropriate post-secondary classes, post-secondary programs and apprenticeship programs.

18 (2) As part of the statewide network established under this section, the commission shall
 19 hire five regional navigators. In order to be eligible to be hired as a regional navigator under
 20 this section, an individual must have previously been incarcerated.

21 (3) The five regional navigators hired under this section shall:

22 (a) Be individually responsible for, and focus on, providing services and connecting adults
 23 in custody and former adults in custody with educational and training programs in a specific
 24 regional area in this state;

25 (b) Collectively provide services to every region in this state;

26 (c) Periodically work collectively as part of a statewide team; and

27 (d) Serve as guides and mentors to adults in custody and former adults in custody by:

28 (A) Preparing adults in custody for their release from incarceration; and

29 (B) Linking adults in custody and former adults in custody to the educational and train-
 30 ing programs that best suit each individual's needs and geographic location.

31 (4) The commission may adopt rules necessary for the effective implementation of this
 32 section.

33 **SECTION 4.** This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
 34 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect
 35 on its passage.

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