

Senate Bill 523

Sponsored by Senator DEMBROW (Pre-session 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**.

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."

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to degree programs; amending ORS 341.013 and 348.910.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 348.910 is amended to read:

5 348.910. (1) As used in this section, "applied baccalaureate degree" means a bachelor's degree
6 designed to incorporate applied associate courses and degrees with additional coursework empha-
7 sizing higher-order thinking skills and advanced technical knowledge and skills.

8 (2) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall develop a plan for offering applied
9 baccalaureate degree programs at community colleges and public universities listed in ORS 352.002.
10 The commission shall consider the following types of programs for the purpose of offering some of
11 these types and the possibility of combinations of these types:

12 (a) A career ladder program that requires a substantial number of upper level courses in the
13 same technical area of study as the student's applied associate degree;

14 (b) An inverse program that reverses the traditional curriculum sequence by adding general
15 education courses in the student's third and fourth years to the associate degree courses taken in
16 the student's first and second years;

17 (c) A management ladder program that combines associate degree requirements with applied
18 management skills coursework; and

19 (d) A work experience program that combines general education and technical coursework with
20 direct, supervised work experience in a relevant field.

21 (3) The plan must include the following elements:

22 (a) The method by which the applied baccalaureate degree programs will be created, including
23 any necessary accreditation by the relevant accrediting agency;

24 (b) The criteria for approving the degree and course options offered by public universities listed
25 in ORS 352.002 and community colleges;

26 (c) The articulation agreements between community colleges and public universities listed in
27 ORS 352.002 necessary to ensure that the applied baccalaureate degree programs are as widely
28 available as possible;

29 (d) The resources required to implement the applied baccalaureate degree program;

30 (e) The timeline necessary to implement the applied baccalaureate degree program; and

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 (f)(A) **The name and type of applied baccalaureate degrees to be conferred.**

2 (B) **In developing names for degrees under this paragraph, any applied baccalaureate de-**
3 **gree for nursing must be conferred as a “Bachelor of Science: Nursing.”** [*A recommendation*
4 *as to whether community colleges should be allowed to offer applied baccalaureate degrees*].

5 **SECTION 2.** ORS 341.013 is amended to read:

6 341.013. (1) As used in this section, “applied baccalaureate degree” has the meaning given that
7 term in ORS 348.910.

8 (2) A community college may offer applied baccalaureate degrees under the provisions of this
9 section.

10 (3) For each applied baccalaureate degree program a community college wants to offer to its
11 students, the community college shall submit to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission:

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

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

15 (c) Documentation of local unmet workforce needs that would be addressed by offering the pro-
16 gram; and

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

19 (4) A proposed applied baccalaureate degree program must be approved by the commission. The
20 commission shall approve a proposed applied baccalaureate degree program if:

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

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

24 (5) **The degree from any proposed applied baccalaureate degree program in nursing that**
25 **is approved under this section must be conferred as a “Bachelor of Science: Nursing.”**

26 [(5)] (6) The commission may adopt rules to implement this section.
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