



Testimony on HB 3564
 House Committee on Higher Education
 March 21, 2023

Chair Lively, Vice-Chairs McIntire and Ruiz, and members of the Committee. My name is Kyle Thomas and I am the Director of Legislative and Policy Affairs for the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC). Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB 3564.

Once a biennium, HECC introduces a bill to make minor and technical modifications to statutes pertaining to higher education and workforce issues. These changes have no fiscal impact, and no or highly limited substantive impact. Primarily, this bill makes small changes to codify current practices, update terminology, or makes technical language changes that do not merit standalone legislation. The following table summarizes the changes included in the bill, with the -2 amendment:

Section	Starting Page	Description of Change
1	1	Updates the membership of the appointed Higher Education Coordinating Commission to account for the addition of the 6 th congressional district by creating a dedicated slot for a 6 th CD representative and reducing the number of at-large Commission slots by one.
2	2	Clarifies that the alteration to the membership of the Commission applies when one of the at-large positions comes up for reappointment, and that the change does not require the removal of a current Commissioner.
3	2	Replaces a reference to The Office of Community Colleges and Workforce Development with a reference to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, as CCWD is not a standalone state office.
4	2	Replaces a reference to The Office of Community Colleges and Workforce Development with a reference to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, as CCWD is not a standalone state office.
5	2	Allows tribal governments to apply for grants offered by the Oregon Conservation Corps.
-2 AMENDMENT		
6	1	Adds language to the statute governing the ASPIRE program, a high school-based mentorship program, to highlight the role career pathways may play in training and education after high school. Adds additional language making community-based organizations eligible to receive support from the program for their mentorship efforts.
7	2	Aligns the state definitions of ‘diploma mill’ and ‘post-secondary accrediting agency’ with the federal definitions of these terms.

		Replaces references to 'regional' accreditation with 'institutional' accreditation, aligning with new federal accreditation categories.
8	4	Replaces references to 'regional' and 'national' accreditation, aligning with new federal accreditation categories.
9	5	Corrects the use of the Commission's name on second reference.
10	5	Updates language to use the new definition of 'post-secondary accrediting agency' from Section 7.
11	6	Recognizes that degrees may lead to certain occupations even when the degree is not closely named for the occupation.
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12	8	Recognizes that degrees may lead to certain occupations even when the degree is not closely named for the occupation.
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13	10	Recognizes that degrees may lead to certain occupations even when the degree is not closely named for the occupation.
14	12	Recognizes that degrees may lead to certain occupations even when the degree is not closely named for the occupation.
15	13	Allows students who cannot fill out the federal financial aid analysis form to qualify for foster student tuition and fee waivers.

Thank you for your time today.