

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 4: Higher Education Coordinating Commission Improvement of Postsecondary Education

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Education Subcommittee
Carrier: Representative Ruiz

The Education Subcommittee heard a request from the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for retroactive approval to submit a federal grant application to develop workforce training programs that prepare learners for in-demand occupations and industries.

The Higher Education Coordinating Commission planned to use this grant to build on Future Ready Oregon efforts by providing subgrant funds to community colleges and workforce partners to support Workforce Pell grant–eligible programs that incorporate pathways from secondary career and technical education, work-based learning, and credit for prior learning. There is no state match requirement, and the agency would use existing staff to administer the grant. However, the agency received notification from the U.S. Department of Education that the application was not funded.

The Education Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means retroactively approve the submission of a federal grant application by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to the U.S. Department of Education, in the amount of \$2.5 million, for workforce training program development.