

HB 2556 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Higher Education and Workforce Development

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Meeting Dates: 1/30, 2/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure designates Portland State University as Oregon's urban research university.

FISCAL: Fiscal impact issued

REVENUE: Revenue impact issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Impact of university designation
- University strategic plan for 2030

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Portland State University (PSU), originally founded in 1946 and located in downtown Portland, is Oregon's third largest university and enrolled over 20,000 students in fall 2024. The [Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education system](#) identifies PSU as a doctoral university with high research activity. Carnegie Classifications attempt to build institutional profiles and to compare institutions based on factors such as research activity, enrollment of graduate and undergraduate students, and concentration of academic programs.

While not all Oregon universities have a designation in state law, [House Bill 2472 \(2021\)](#) designated the Oregon Institute of Technology (OIT) as "Oregon's Polytechnic University" and [House Bill 4153 \(2018\)](#) designated Eastern Oregon University as "Oregon's Rural University."