

House Bill 3182

Sponsored by Representatives SOSA, OWENS, Senator FREDERICK, Representatives HUDSON, LEVY B, MCLAIN, NERON, NOSSE, RUIZ, Senators CAMPOS, WEBER; Representatives ANDERSEN, GAMBA, MCINTIRE, MUNOZ, PHAM H, Senators BROADMAN, GELSER BLOUIN, GORSEK, MEEK, PATTERSON, TAYLOR (at the request of Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon) (Presession 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**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: Tells the HECC to give money to fund basic needs for higher learning students. Creates a task force on student housing to study student housing needs. Directs the HECC to provide grants to certain organizations that help low-income college students with housing. Declares an emergency and becomes law when the Governor signs it. (Flesch Readability Score: 62.4).

Directs the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to administer a grant program to fund basic needs programming. Appropriates moneys to the commission to establish the program and award grants for basic needs programming. Sunsets the grant program on January 2, 2027.

Establishes the Task Force on Student Housing to review and make recommendations on policy changes regarding barriers that students in higher education face in accessing affordable housing. Sunsets the task force on January 2, 2027.

Directs the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to award grants to nonprofit organizations that provide affordable housing support to low-income students in higher education in this state. Appropriates moneys to the commission for purposes of awarding the grants.

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to aid to students in higher education; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:

(a) **“Basic needs programming” means programming, services and supports provided to students for assistance in meeting certain basic needs, including food, housing, transportation, textbooks or other related needs, as determined by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission.**

(b) **“Public institution of higher education” means:**

(A) **A public university listed in ORS 352.002; and**

(B) **A community college operated under ORS chapter 341.**

(2) **The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall administer a grant program to provide funding for basic needs programming at each public institution of higher education. The commission shall establish a formula for the distribution of grants awarded under this subsection. The total amount of grants awarded shall be based on the percentage of students at each public institution of higher education who are recipients of an award from the Oregon Opportunity Grant program established under ORS 348.205.**

(3) **The commission shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245 to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to higher education not later than September 15, 2026. The report submitted under this subsection must include an assessment of how the awarding of grants under this section impacted the basic needs programming at each public institution of higher education.**

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 1 of this 2025 Act is repealed on January 2, 2027.

2 **SECTION 3.** (1) The Task Force on Student Housing is established.

3 (2) The task force consists of 14 members appointed as follows:

4 (a) The President of the Senate shall appoint one member from among members of the
5 Senate.

6 (b) The Senate Minority Leader shall appoint one member from among members of the
7 Senate.

8 (c) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member from among
9 members of the House of Representatives.

10 (d) The House Minority Leader shall appoint one member from among members of the
11 House of Representatives.

12 (e) The Governor shall appoint the following voting members of the task force:

13 (A) One member who is a commissioner on the Higher Education Coordinating Commis-
14 sion;

15 (B) One member who represents the Housing and Community Services Department;

16 (C) One member who represents public universities listed in ORS 352.002;

17 (D) One member who represents community colleges operated under ORS chapter 341;

18 (E) One member who is a student enrolled at a public university;

19 (F) One member who is a student enrolled at a community college;

20 (G) One member who represents an organization or nonprofit corporation that advocates
21 for affordable housing;

22 (H) One member who represents an organization or nonprofit corporation that advocates
23 for houseless individuals;

24 (I) One member who is employed at the housing office of a public university; and

25 (J) One member who is employed at the housing office of a community college.

26 (3) The task force shall:

27 (a) Review existing research on barriers that students in higher education face in ac-
28 cessing affordable housing;

29 (b) Report on the barriers students face to accessing affordable housing; and

30 (c) Make recommendations on policy changes that increase post-secondary student ac-
31 cess to affordable housing.

32 (4) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the
33 transaction of business.

34 (5) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting
35 members of the task force.

36 (6) The Governor shall designate one member appointed under subsection (2)(e) of this
37 section as chairperson and another as vice chairperson of the task force.

38 (7) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-
39 ment to become immediately effective.

40 (8) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson
41 or of a majority of the voting members of the task force.

42 (9) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

43 (10) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245 that sets
44 forth the findings and recommendations made by the task force under subsection (3) of this
45 section, and may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committee of the

1 **Legislative Assembly related to higher education no later than December 15, 2026.**

2 (11) **The Legislative Policy and Research Director shall provide staff support to the task**
3 **force.**

4 (12) **Members of the Legislative Assembly appointed to the task force are nonvoting**
5 **members of the task force and may act in an advisory capacity only.**

6 (13) **Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not**
7 **entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers on the task**
8 **force.**

9 (14) **All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist**
10 **the task force in the performance of the duties of the task force and, to the extent permitted**
11 **by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task**
12 **force consider necessary to perform their duties.**

13 **SECTION 4. Section 3 of this 2025 Act is repealed on January 2, 2027.**

14 **SECTION 5. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**
15 **ated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, for the biennium beginning July 1,**
16 **2025, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$10,000,000, to fund the grant program described**
17 **in section 1 of this 2025 Act.**

18 **SECTION 6. The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall award grants to**
19 **nonprofit organizations that provide affordable housing support to low-income students in**
20 **higher education in this state.**

21 **SECTION 7. Section 6 of this 2025 Act is repealed on January 2, 2028.**

22 **SECTION 8. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**
23 **ated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, for the biennium beginning July 1,**
24 **2025, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$6,500,000, for purposes of section 6 of this 2025**
25 **Act.**

26 **SECTION 9. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
27 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect**
28 **on its passage.**

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