



Legislative Fiscal Office
83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly
2026 Regular Session

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Bill Title: Relating to the state post-secondary education system; declaring an emergency.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Higher Education Coordinating Commission

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure, while likely minimal, are indeterminate at this time - see explanatory analysis.

Measure Description

The measure directs the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to conduct a study of the condition of Oregon’s post-secondary education system and to develop detailed recommendations for the design, implementation, and operation of a viable and superior institutional framework that supports statewide higher education access, economic development, and institutional and systemic financial viability, including opportunities for collaboration, restructuring, or integration. The recommendations may also address workforce needs, program duplication, employment supports, funding strategies, and metrics of affordability. HECC must consult with institutions of higher education in developing its list of recommendations. The measure permits HECC to utilize third-party contractors to carry out all or part of the study.

Fiscal Analysis

The fiscal impact of the measure, while likely minimal, is presently indeterminate. HECC anticipates that the study and recommendations would cost up to \$350,000 General Fund in the 2025-27 biennium and require the services of a third-party contractor. Based on the current budget conditions, HECC may not require additional resources to support this work, instead drawing on available General Fund resources in the 2025-27 biennium. However, this assumes that these financial resources are not subject to budgetary reductions in the 2025-27 biennium, and that utilizing current resources may limit HECC’s ability to conduct other work not explicitly budgeted for in the current biennium.

Relevant Dates

The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.

HECC is to submit a preliminary report by October 1, 2026, and present HECC’s recommendations to the Legislature by April 1, 2027.