

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

HB 4124

Relating to the state post-secondary education system

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Education Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Sollman

HB 4124 directs the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to conduct a comprehensive study of Oregon's public university and community college system and develop recommendations for implementing a more effective, financially sustainable, and economically aligned institutional framework. The study must identify ways to improve student access across regions, strengthen alignment with workforce and economic development needs, and enhance the long-term financial stability of institutions.

The study must evaluate institutional missions; evaluate criteria for academic program development; and review for unmet needs or unnecessary program duplication, funding strategies, opportunities for collaboration or structural reform, and measures of affordability and institutional financial health.

Stakeholders, including institutions, faculty, staff, and students, must be consulted during the process. A preliminary report is due to the Legislature by October 1, 2026, with the final report due April 1, 2027. The measure is expected to have a minimal fiscal impact on the Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

The Education Subcommittee recommends HB 4124 be amended by the –A5 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.