

77th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2013 Regular Session
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
Senate Committee on Education & Workforce Development

MEASURE: SB 222 A
CARRIER:

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by Prior Reference
Vote:	4 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Knopp, Kruse, Roblan, Hass
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Beyer
Prepared By:	Richard Donovan, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/5, 2/21, 2/26, 3/12, 4/2, 4/11, 4/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Mandates distribution of funds as prescribed in measure. Requires Oregon Student Access Commission to administer scholarship fund related to accelerated college credit programs. Directs Department of Education to administer program to enable consortia to provide resources for accelerated college credit programs. Mandates that Oregon Education Investment Board design and implement programs for strategic investments to expand accelerated credit programs, and develop timelines, performance measures and other requirements related to data collection. Appropriates funds for those investments, for distribution to Oregon Student Access Commission and Department of Education. Establishes Accelerated Learning Committee, and directs committee to report to Legislature no later than October 1, 2014. Details types of credits that may be required beyond 24 total credit hours. Requires community college district to collaborate with school districts to provide accelerated college credit programs. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- College credit vs. High School credit language; “credit” vs. “quarter-credit” language
- Teacher certification/qualification concerns, particularly in rural areas
- Option to require college-level credits for high school graduation
- Desire for further input, study in this area; idea of a larger-scale plan in future legislative session
- Potential requirement of both Democrat and Republican representation on committee
- Allocation of funds as in keeping with policy goals of measure
- Potential for 24 credit language to enable and cause expanded enrollment in accelerated credit courses

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces measure.

BACKGROUND: Recent legislative actions in the area of accelerated credit opportunities stems from Senate Bill 253 (2011), which established statutory requirements, including achievement of the following numerical goals by 2025: 40 percent of adult Oregonians earn a bachelor’s degree or higher; 40 percent of adult Oregonians earn an associate’s degree or post-secondary credential; 20 percent of adult Oregonians earn a high school diploma or equivalent thereof. House Bill 3601 (2011) took a further step towards targeting accelerated credit programs by, among other things, modifying the waiver process for participation in Expanded Options Programs to ensure participation by eligible at-risk students.

4/17/2013 11:29:00 AM

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

Prepared by: Tim Walker
 Reviewed by: Doug Wilson
 Date: 05/16/2013

Measure Description:

Expands purposes for which grants awarded for accelerated college credit programs may be used.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

School Districts, Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC), Oregon Educational Investment Board, Department of Education

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

Summary of Expenditure Impact		
	2013-15 Biennium	2015-17 Biennium
General Fund	\$8,718,685	
Lottery Funds		
Other Funds		
Federal Funds		
Total Funds	\$8,718,685	\$0
Positions	14	
FTE	4.19	

Local Government Mandate:

This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

Analysis: This bill creates the Accelerated Learning Committee and directs the committee to examine methods to encourage and enable students to obtain college credits while still in high school, and emphasize the alignment of funding, assessments and procedures between high schools and post-secondary institutions of higher education to encourage efficiencies and to make post-secondary education more affordable for families. The Oregon Education Investment Board (OEIB) is directed to staff and oversee the work of the committee, including development of a final report. The Committee is directed to report back to the interim Education Committee by October 2014. In addition, the bill appropriates \$3,000,000 General Fund to the Oregon Student Access Commission and \$5,000,000 General Fund to Oregon Department of Education (ODE) for strategic investments. This \$8 million in appropriation requests are included in the Governor's budget. There is no sunset in the bill and any future appropriation for this program will have to be taken up by the 2015 Legislative Assembly. The agencies anticipate ongoing costs of supporting the program, if the Legislative Assembly chooses to fund it, are approximately \$686,000 for four positions (2.88 FTE) for the 2015-17 biennium.

OEIB's staffing for this bill is anticipated in the Governor's Budget in the OEIB Policy and Research Unit. OEIB anticipates using 3 positions (0.41 FTE) to staff the committee. ODE anticipates additional resources, portions of seven positions (1.28 FTE), to administer the grant programs, contract for an

outside program to evaluate the program success, develop rules and provide technical assistance. ODE anticipates the total cost of the grant administration and consortium development, separate from the costs and positions outlined above, to be approximately 7.8% of the \$5.0 million appropriation.

The Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC) would need to create, implement and administer the new scholarship and grant programs. In addition, OSAC would need to develop administrative rules, eligibility criteria, application and selection processes, and create a database and software to collect data on applicants and recipients. OSAC would also need to track expenditures, recipient's progress and report on program performance. OSAC estimates that these activities would require \$396,477 and three positions (2.50 FTE) in 2013-15 biennium and \$455,949 and three positions (2.50 FTE) in the 2015-17 biennium. OSAC cannot absorb the additional activities with current resources.

Revisions were made for clarity and readability.