

# Enrolled House Bill 2970

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

CHAPTER .....

AN ACT

Relating to associate transfer degrees; amending ORS 341.430.

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

**SECTION 1.** ORS 341.430, as amended by section 11, chapter 104, Oregon Laws 2012, is amended to read:

341.430. (1) As used in this section:

(a) "Associate transfer degree" means an associate degree that is awarded by a community college and that is intended to allow a student to apply the credits earned for the degree toward a baccalaureate degree.

(b) "Community college" means a community college operated under ORS chapter 341.

(c) "State institution of higher education" means a state institution of higher education listed in ORS 352.002.

(d) "Transfer program" means a one-year program that is designed to allow a student to apply the credits earned through the program toward a baccalaureate degree.

(2) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall develop standards related to the ability of students to apply credits earned through courses of study at community colleges to baccalaureate degrees awarded by state institutions of higher education. The standards shall be known as the "Transfer Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities."

(3) The standards developed under this section [*may*] **must** include:

(a) Admission standards to state institutions of higher education for students who have earned an associate transfer degree.

(b) [*The maximum*] **Processes to minimize the** number of credits that students who have earned an associate transfer degree would need to complete prior to receiving various types of baccalaureate degrees at state institutions of higher education.

(c) [*The maximum*] **Processes to minimize the** number of credits that students who have completed a transfer program would need to complete prior to receiving various types of baccalaureate degrees at state institutions of higher education.

(d) [*A process*] **Processes** by which a community college would award an associate degree to a student upon completion of necessary credits, regardless of whether the student applied to receive the degree or whether the student earned the credits for the degree at a community college or a state institution of higher education.

(e) **Processes to evaluate and make recommendations for the development of associate transfer degrees in specific areas of study, including engineering.**

[*e*] (f) Any other issues identified by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission that relate to courses of study at community colleges and the ability of a student to transfer credits to a

community college or a state institution of higher education, to be admitted to a state institution of higher education or to earn a degree at a community college or a state institution of higher education.

[(f)] (g) Requirements that students must meet in order to benefit from the standards described in paragraphs (a) to [(e)] (f) of this subsection.

(4) Each community college and state institution of higher education shall submit annual reports to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission related to:

(a) The number of students who attend a community college and then a state institution of higher education, or a state institution of higher education and then a community college.

(b) The number of students who attend one community college and then a different community college.

(c) The number of students who transfer from a community college to a state institution of higher education and who have an associate transfer degree or have completed a transfer program.

(d) The average number of credits students have when they transfer from a community college to a state institution of higher education.

(e) The average number of credits students have when they attend one community college and then a different community college.

(f) The average number of credits that a student earning an associate transfer degree completed at a community college.

(g) The average number of credits students who have transferred from a community college to a state institution of higher education must earn prior to receiving a baccalaureate degree compared to the average number of credits students who did not transfer from a community college must earn prior to receiving a baccalaureate degree.

**Passed by House April 3, 2013**

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Ramona J. Line, Chief Clerk of House

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Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

**Passed by Senate May 13, 2013**

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate

**Received by Governor:**

.....M.,....., 2013

**Approved:**

.....M.,....., 2013

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John Kitzhaber, Governor

**Filed in Office of Secretary of State:**

.....M.,....., 2013

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Kate Brown, Secretary of State