FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2015 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

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Measure Description:

Extends eligibility for receiving Oregon financial aid scholarships and grants to certain students who qualify for exemption from paying nonresident tuition.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

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 fiscal impact statement is for the purpose of transmitting the measure from the Senate Committee on Education to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means. The bill would broaden eligibility requirements for certain state scholarships to students exempted from paying nonresident tuition under ORS 351.641. Many students who are eligible for resident tuition under ORS 351.641 cannot file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) because they are neither US citizens nor eligible noncitizens. To be able to determine these students' eligibility for an Oregon Opportunity Grant, HECC would need to either develop its own separate application process, or contract with a third-party vendor to collect and transmit the necessary data. The agency may have a fiscal impact associated with this bill, the amount of this impact is still being determined. A more complete fiscal analysis on the bill will be prepared as the measure is considered in the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

Further Analysis Required