

A-Engrossed Senate Bill 420

Ordered by the Senate March 22
Including Senate Amendments dated March 22

Sponsored by Senator HASS; Senators BAERTSCHIGER JR, FREDERICK, MONROE, OLSEN, Representative JOHNSON (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

[Requires Department of Education to study methods and means by which to create incentives for students to pursue educational degrees in mathematics.]

Requires Higher Education Coordinating Commission by rule to specify guidelines for reimbursing students who are residents of this state for tuition expenses that students incur for upper-division classes in mathematics at public university. Specifies conditions for reimbursement.

Establishes Task Force on Creating Incentives for Mathematics Teaching in Oregon and prescribes membership. Requires task force to identify, describe and recommend specific and actionable strategies and best practices by means of which Oregon can increase number of teachers that teach mathematics in elementary and secondary schools, with emphasis on rural areas of state, and students who study and obtain degree in mathematics, with emphasis on students who are female or come from underrepresented groups.

Sunsets task force on December 31, 2018.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to education; and prescribing an effective date.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:**

5 (a) "Tuition expense" means:

6 (A) The amount of money a student pays for a class described in subsection (2)(a) of this
7 section; and

8 (B) The amount of any fees or surcharges a student pays in connection with a class de-
9 scribed in subsection (2)(a) of this section.

10 (b) "Tuition expense" does not include tuition for classes other than classes described in
11 subsection (2)(a) of this section, or fees or surcharges that a public university listed in ORS
12 352.002 charges all students in connection with enrollment in the public university.

13 (2)(a) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission by rule shall specify guidelines for
14 reimbursing students who are residents of this state for tuition expenses the students incur
15 for upper-division classes in mathematics at a public university listed in ORS 352.002.

16 (b) The rules described in paragraph (a) of this subsection must provide that a re-
17 imbursement for a tuition expense is a grant and is contingent on the student:

18 (A) Residing in this state for at least 12 months before enrolling in a mathematics class
19 that qualifies for the reimbursement;

20 (B) Achieving a grade of B or better or demonstrating equivalent academic achievement

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 in each mathematics class in which the student enrolls and that qualifies for the re-
2 imbursement;

3 (C) Achieving an overall cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher or otherwise
4 demonstrating an equivalent academic ability;

5 (D) Enrolling in courses at the public university for a sufficient number of credit hours
6 to qualify as at least a half-time student during any term for which the student seeks a re-
7 imbursement;

8 (E) Making satisfactory progress toward an undergraduate degree in mathematics; and

9 (F) Submitting an application for the reimbursement to a public university on a form
10 that the commission prescribes.

11 (3) A public university listed in ORS 352.002 shall reimburse a student who submits an
12 application under subsection (2)(b)(F) of this section, and who otherwise qualifies for the
13 reimbursement, by direct payment or by means of a credit or setoff against the student's
14 tuition for a succeeding term.

15 (4) A public university listed in ORS 352.002 shall make a reimbursement under this sec-
16 tion from funds appropriated to the public university for the purposes identified in this sec-
17 tion.

18 **SECTION 2.** (1) The Task Force on Creating Incentives for Mathematics Teaching in
19 Oregon is established.

20 (2) The task force consists of 17 members appointed as follows:

21 (a) The President of the Senate shall appoint two members from among members of the
22 Senate who have an interest in mathematics education.

23 (b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two members from among
24 members of the House of Representatives who have an interest in mathematics education.

25 (c) The Governor shall appoint 13 members as follows:

26 (A) The Chief Education Officer, or a designee from the Department of Education;

27 (B) A representative from the Higher Education Coordinating Commission;

28 (C) Three representatives from public universities listed in ORS 352.002 that have teacher
29 training programs for mathematics teachers;

30 (D) Two representatives from community colleges in this state;

31 (E) Five teachers from public school districts in this state, at least three of whom must
32 be from rural counties in this state; and

33 (F) A representative from an educational service district in this state.

34 (3) The task force shall identify, describe and recommend specific and actionable strate-
35 gies and best practices by means of which the state can increase the number of:

36 (a) Teachers who teach mathematics in elementary and secondary schools in this state,
37 with an emphasis on teaching mathematics in rural areas of this state; and

38 (b) Students who study mathematics at elementary and secondary schools in this state,
39 and who subsequently obtain a college degree in mathematics, with an emphasis on students
40 who are female or who come from minority groups who are underrepresented in mathemat-
41 ics classrooms and in the field of mathematics.

42 (4) The task force may consult experts, conduct studies, hold hearings and receive testi-
43 mony, and otherwise undertake any other activities that are necessary to carry out the
44 purposes set forth in subsection (3) of this section.

45 (5) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the

1 **transaction of business.**

2 (6) **Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting**
3 **members of the task force.**

4 (7) **The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.**

5 (8) **If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-**
6 **ment to become immediately effective.**

7 (9) **The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson**
8 **or of a majority of the voting members of the task force.**

9 (10) **The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.**

10 (11) **The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and**
11 **shall include recommendations for legislation, to an interim committee of the Legislative**
12 **Assembly related to education no later than September 15, 2018.**

13 (12) **The Department of Education shall provide staff support to the task force.**

14 (13) **Members of the Legislative Assembly appointed to the task force are nonvoting**
15 **members of the task force and may act in an advisory capacity only.**

16 (14) **Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not**
17 **entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers on the task**
18 **force.**

19 (15) **All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist**
20 **the task force in the performance of the task force's duties and, to the extent permitted by**
21 **laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task**
22 **force consider necessary to perform their duties.**

23 **SECTION 3. Section 2 of this 2017 Act is repealed on December 31, 2018.**

24 **SECTION 4. This 2017 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2017**
25 **regular session of the Seventy-ninth Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.**

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