

## **SB 497 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

### **Senate Committee On Education**

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**Meeting Dates:** 2/13

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#### **WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Reduces the minimum grade point average (GPA) required for an Oregon Promise grant from a 2.5 to 2.0 cumulative GPA. Permits recipients to enroll for less than half-time (six credits) if they work more than 30 hours a week. Applies to students applying for Oregon Promise on or after the effective date of the act.

**REVENUE:** May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

**FISCAL:** May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

#### **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

In 2015, the legislature created the Oregon Promise program to provide state grants to cover the cost of community college tuition. To qualify, Oregon students must be recent Oregon high school or GED graduates, earn a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.5, and enroll at an Oregon community college within 6 months of graduation. To maintain eligibility, students must remain continuously enrolled for at least six credits each term, complete a first-year college experience requirement, and make satisfactory academic progress. In 2016-2017, Oregon had 35,380 high school graduates. Among these graduates, 45 percent applied for the Oregon Promise, 31 percent completed the application and met requirements, and 16 percent accepted the award.