

SB 800 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Student Success

Meeting Dates: 4/3, 4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to develop standards for approving partnerships to provide dual credit programs, as specified. Requires community colleges and public universities to accept credits earned through a partnership, as specified.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Percentage of high-school dual credits that are accepted by colleges and universities
- Dual credit programs
- Re-taking of college courses because of lack of transferability
- Roles of ESDs in dual credit programs
- Systematic barriers
- Lack of progress on the issue
- Financial impact to students and families
- Lack of knowledge on what credits are transferrable
- Need for statewide collaboration

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Directs Higher Education Coordinating Commission to convene teachers, administrators, and faculty to assist with aligning credits earned through dual credit programs, as specified. Requires HECC to submit report to the legislature no later than March 31, 2020. Sunsets provisions on December 31, 2020. Requires HECC to include information on acceptance of dual credits in annual report. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

BACKGROUND:

Dual credits programs provide students with the opportunity to earn college credit while in high school. The programs include dual credit, sponsored dual credit, and assessment-based learning. In Dual Credit courses, the high school teacher is qualified to teach at the college or university level in a high school setting. In Sponsored Dual Credit courses, a high school teacher partners with a sponsoring faculty member at a college or university to offer the course. In Assessment Based Learning Credit, students do not enroll in a college course but are provided an opportunity to earn college credit by demonstrating they have achieved a course's learning outcomes.

Oregon law requires the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to develop standards for all three types of dual credit programs. Senate Bill 800 requires HECC to adopt standards to improve the ability of students to earn college credit for courses completed in high school.