

HB 2941 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

Action Date: 04/03/19

Action: Do pass, rescind subsequent referral to Student Success, and be referred to Ways and Means.

Vote: 8-1-0-0

Yeas: 8 - Alonso Leon, Doherty, Helt, Hernandez, Neron, Reardon, Sollman, Wallan

Nays: 1 - Reschke

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 3/20, 4/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to require each mental health provider preparation program to prepare a plan for the recruitment, admission, retention, and graduation of students in mental health provider preparation programs. Defines mental health provider as psychologist, clinical social worker, and professional counselor or marriage and family therapist. Amends annual plan developed by Chief Education Office and HECC to recruit diverse educators and include mental health providers.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Purpose of bill expanding current collaboration between agencies
- Ongoing relationship between Chief Education Office and education preparation provider programs

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Mental health provider preparation programs prepare students in behavioral health treatment, counseling, clinical mental health counseling, and other variations in professional mental health programs. Graduate programs are available in universities and colleges in Oregon. Some have Master's degrees in Counseling with concentrations in clinical mental health counseling and school counseling.

House Bill 2941 directs the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to require each mental health provider preparation program to prepare a plan for the recruitment, admission, retention, and graduation of mental health providers. Mental health providers are considered psychologists, clinical social workers, and professional counselors or marriage and family therapists.