

HB 4160 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

Action Date: 02/05/20

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference.
(Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 8-1-0-0

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

Nays: 1 - Wallan

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/3, 2/5

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes Task Force on Student Success for Underrepresented Students in Higher Education (Task Force). Directs Task Force to visit public post-secondary institutions to meet with stakeholders who represent populations and student populations that are underrepresented in student bodies, including: communities of color, rural communities in Oregon, low-income families, students with disabilities, students experiencing mental health issues, those who identify as LGBTQ+, parents, adult learners, current foster children or former foster children, students who earned a diploma for passing the high school equivalency test such as the General Educational Development (GED), and first generation students. Defines "communities of color" and "students from rural communities." Directs Task Force to develop student success policy proposals and recommendations for the Eighty-First Legislative Assembly focusing on increasing the likelihood of success in higher education, as specified. Allows Task Force to pre-session file legislation for interim committees. Requires findings be reported no later than September 1, 2020 to the Legislative Assembly and a final report be submitted by December 1, 2020 to the interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to higher education. Allows Legislative Policy and Research Office Director to employ people to staff the Task Force. Allows the Task Force to engage translators as needed. Directs Task Force to consult with the Office of the Governor. Repeals Task Force on December 31, 2021. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Interest in engaging faculty and creating community forum
- Definition of rural communities in Oregon
- Distinction between Southern Oregon and rural communities

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces measure.

BACKGROUND:

The Joint Committee on Student Success traveled around the state of Oregon to help identify policy recommendations to further student success in Oregon's Prekindergarten through Grade 12 schools while studying methods of funding high-quality K-12 education. The Committee's work was based around five foundational principles: 1) Early childhood education is important to school success; 2) Attendance and having sufficient learning time are crucial; 3) Oregon must improve high school graduation rates; 4) The school system needs to be accountable and transparent; and 5) Schools need stable and sufficient resources. The Committee developed House Bill 3427 (2019), which represented the culmination of site visits, public hearings, and roundtable discussions. Similarly, a Task Force requiring the visitation of public post-secondary institutions to

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meet with underrepresented students has not occurred in Oregon.

House Bill 4160-A would create a Task Force on Student Success for Underrepresented Students in Higher Education to travel around the state and visit public post-secondary institutions, to hear from students representing underrepresented groups, and stakeholder organizations.