

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

81st Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2021 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

Measure: SB 854 - 4

*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*

Prepared by: Tim Walker
Reviewed by: Doug Wilson
Date: 06/15/2021

Measure Description:

Changes composition of governing board for public universities.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC), Public Universities

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure are indeterminate at this time - See explanatory analysis.

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

See Analysis.

Analysis: The measure changes the composition of governing boards for public universities, adds organizations from which Governor must elicit recommendations, and considerations Governor must make, prior to appointing members of governing board. The measure also requires each member of governing board to have official electronic mail address that is publicly available, requires governing board to make designated times available to present before board for faculty, nonfaculty staff and students and for organizations or unions affiliated with faculty, nonfaculty staff or students and requires faculty member, nonfaculty staff member and enrolled student to be included in hiring committee for public university president. In addition, the measure requires governing board to conduct comprehensive evaluation of public university president at least once a biennium that is finalized in a report submitted to Governor and Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC). Prohibits secretary of governing board from also being member of public university administration. Changes composition of HECC, requires any decision by public university to eliminate course of study to constitute a significant change that requires HECC approval and requires HECC to establish process to enable any employee or enrolled student of public university to appeal to HECC any decision made by governing board and allows HECC to overturn appealed governing board decision.

The fiscal impact to Universities is indeterminate due to current board staffing levels may not be adequate to support the additional requirements of the measure. The exact level of staffing is unknown at this time.