

Legislative Fiscal Office

Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE, H-178
Salem, OR 97301
503-986-1828



Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Sen. Betsy Johnson, Senate Co-Chair
Sen. Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, Senate Co-Chair
Rep. Dan Rayfield, House Co-Chair

Sen. Fred Girod, Senate Co-Vice Chair
Rep. David Gomberg, House Co-Vice Chair
Rep. Greg Smith, House Co-Vice Chair

Laurie Byerly, Interim Legislative Fiscal Officer
Amanda Beitel, Deputy Legislative Fiscal Officer (Budget)
Paul Siebert, Deputy Legislative Fiscal Officer (Audit/IT)

To: Education Subcommittee

From: Doug Wilson, Legislative Fiscal Office

Date: June 17, 2021

Subject: SB 551 – Relating to Employees at Public Institutions of Higher Education
Work Session Recommendations

SB 551 as amended by the -3 amendment provides funding to provide health insurance coverage for part-time faculty at public universities and community colleges. To be eligible a faculty member must be working at a level equal to at least half of a full-time equivalent employee. Generally, the part-time faculty member is responsible for 10% of the premium with the state picking up the remaining 90%.

Each eligible faculty member must select a home institution to manage the benefits for the entire benefit year. The home institution must determine eligibility, collect the 10% premium amount from the faculty member, and pay the full cost of the premium subject to reimbursement for the state share. The faculty member must provide information to the Home institution necessary to meet the requirements of the bill. The home institution may request reimbursement for the state share of the premium from the Higher Education Coordinating Commission every three months.

The Part-time Faculty Insurance Fund is established by the bill and \$12.9 million General Fund is appropriated to the Fund for 2021-23.

Recommended Changes

LFO recommends adoption of the -3 amendment.

Final Subcommittee Action

LFO recommends that BILL 551, as amended by the -3 amendment, to be moved to the Ways and Means Full Committee.

Carriers

Full Committee: _____

House Floor: _____

Senate Floor: _____