

**HB 2961 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**House Committee On Education**

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**Prepared By:** Ellen O'Brien, LPRO Analyst

**Sub-Referral To:** Joint Committee On Ways and Means

**Meeting Dates:** 2/13

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Appropriates \$5 million from General Fund to Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) for allocation to public universities and community colleges to expand the scope and community reach of college access and success programs. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2023.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

House Bill 5006 (2021), Section 158, included a \$5 million appropriation to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for programs assisting access to post-secondary education opportunities. Analysis on the bill notes that the appropriation was intended for distribution in amounts of \$1 million to five programs or organizations: Access to Student Assistance Programs in Reach of Everyone (ASPIRE), College Possible, Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID), BUILD EXITO at Portland State University, and the Oregon TRIO Association. This appropriation was introduced in House Bill 2412 (2021), which passed the House Committee on Education and was referred to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

House Bill 2961 appropriates \$5 million to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to expand the scope and community reach of college access and success programs.