

HB 3121 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Higher Education

Prepared By: Ellen O'Brien, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/14, 3/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to study methods to make public higher education affordable for Oregonians. Requires HECC to submit report and possible recommendations to Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2024.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of amendment
- Competing costs of food, housing, tuition, and textbooks
- Increase in cost of textbooks relative to inflation

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Appropriates \$5,200,000 General Fund to Higher Education Coordinating Commission for purposes of carrying out Oregon's Open Educational Resources Program. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2023.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 3121 requires the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to study methods to make public higher education affordable for Oregonians and requires HECC to submit a report to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2024.