SB 482   STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Higher Education

Prepared By:	Ellen O'Brien, LPRO Analyst
Meeting Dates:	4/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires community college aviation maintenance programs that take place in neighboring state at airport owned and operated pursuant to agreement between city in Oregon and out-of-state county to be considered hours of instruction for purposes of determining full-time equivalency.

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

REVENUE: No revenue impact

SENATE VOTE: Ayes, 28; Excused, 2

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) reviewed Columbia Gorge Community College (CGCC)'s application for approval of a new degree program, Associate of Applied Science in Aviation Maintenance Technology, in February 2021. The college announced the Federal Aviation Administration's approval of the program in August 2022. At that time, CGCC was in the process of leasing and securing construction funding for a dedicated training hangar at Columbia Gorge Regional Airport. The airport is located in Dallesport, Washington, and is jointly owned by the City of The Dalles, Oregon, and Klickitat County, Washington.

OAR 589-002-0110 governs HECC distributions to community college districts for funding educational programs. The Community College Support Fund (CCSF) is the funding received through the state's General Fund appropriation, and colleges are eligible to receive CCSF funds for each full-time equivalent (FTE) student in accordance with the CCSF Funding Distribution Formula. Currently, OAR 589-002-0120 limits students who can be counted as part of each community college district's CCSF reimbursable FTE to those who take part in coursework offered within Oregon state boundaries.

Senate Bill 482 requires hours of instruction in aviation maintenance programs conducted at certain airports in neighboring states to be counted toward student full-time equivalency for purposes of state community college funding.