

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Higher Education Coordinating Commission AmeriCorps Volunteer Generation Fund

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Education Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Frederick

On Monday, May 15th, the Education Subcommittee recommended approval of the submission of a federal grant application from the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to the AmeriCorps Volunteer Generation Fund in the amount of \$300,000 to support the recruitment and retention of volunteers.

This grant opportunity provides funding to expand recruitment and retention of skill-based volunteers to solve community problems. If awarded, the HECC OregonServes unit would hire one limited duration Office Specialist 2 position to support existing staff with the implementation of two volunteer management software applications to help the agency identify, recruit, and manage disaster recovery and general needs volunteers. In addition, a portion of the funding will be used to provide microgrants to community organizations to develop accessible and equitable volunteer resources and service-learning initiatives. This is a competitive grant and requires a 20% match of \$60,000 which HECC plans to fulfill with existing agency resources and in-kind services.

The grant application was due May 16th. HECC submitted a request to the Legislature on April 28th. However, due to legislative scheduling conflicts, the grant did not receive a work session prior to the application deadline, making this a retroactive approval.

The Education Subcommittee recommends approval.