

HB 2265 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Higher Education

Action Date: 03/28/23

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 7-1-1-0

Yeas: 7 - Bowman, Hudson, Lively, Mannix, McIntire, Sosa, Wright

Nays: 1 - Elmer

Exc: 1 - Ruiz

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 3/23, 3/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes Task Force on Funding Post-Secondary Education. Establishes task force membership. Requires task force to review how higher education is funded in Oregon, to compare higher education funding model in Oregon to other states, to make recommendations on methods for Legislative Assembly to increase funding for post-secondary institutions of education, and to demonstrate how increase in funding can stabilize tuition rates. Requires task force to submit report to Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2024. Requires Higher Education Coordinating Commission and Legislative Revenue Office to provide staff support. Repeals task forces and reporting requirements on December 31, 2024. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of amendment
- Low state investment in higher education relative to other states
- Cost of attendance for in-state students

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

The Joint Task Force on Student Success for Underrepresented Students in Higher Education (JTUSHE) was a bicameral legislative task force established by House Bill 2590 (2021). The measure charged the task force with visiting public post-secondary institutions of education in order to meet with current, former, and prospective students from underrepresented backgrounds, and with developing policy and funding proposals that focus on increasing the likelihood of student success for underrepresented students in the areas of access, retention, graduation, and entry into the workforce. The task force approved its [Report on Findings and Recommendations for 2023 Legislative Session](#) on December 13, 2022. House Bill 2265 was among the legislation that the task force pre-session filed in accordance with the authority granted by House Bill 2590 (2021).

According to the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS)'s 2022 [Oregon Higher Education Landscape Study](#), increases in tuition prices at Oregon colleges and universities since 2008 have outpaced price increases both nationally and regionally (pg. 71). At public four-year institutions, especially, average tuition and fees in Oregon are significantly higher than the national average (\$14,083 vs \$9,295), while educational appropriations per full-time Oregon student are significantly lower (\$6,327 vs \$8,859) (pg. 68).

House Bill 2265 A establishes the Task Force on Funding Post-Secondary Education and requires the task force to submit a report to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2024.