

House Bill 2471

Sponsored by Representative BYNUM (at the request of Claire C. Ford, M.D., Travis Polston, M.D., Thomas Grass, DMD) (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requires Oregon Health and Science University, in consultation with Oregon Department of Administrative Services and Department of Revenue, to conduct study to determine how best to revise repayment method for individuals who receive scholarship from Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative, but who do not fulfill required service agreement. Directs university to submit findings to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to higher education not later than September 15, 2024.

Prohibits university from requiring repayment from individuals who fail to complete service agreement until July 2, 2025.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to repayment process for Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative.

2 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

3 **SECTION 1. (1) The Oregon Health and Science University, in consultation with the**
4 **Oregon Department of Administrative Services and Department of Revenue, shall conduct a**
5 **study to determine how best to revise the repayment process for individuals who:**

6 **(a) Receive a scholarship under the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative set forth in**
7 **ORS 348.303; and**

8 **(b) Do not initiate or fulfill the required service agreement.**

9 **(2) As part of this study, the university must:**

10 **(a) Seek to identify a repayment method that is:**

11 **(A) Equitable to both the university and program participants; and**

12 **(B) Easy to administer; and**

13 **(b) Specifically determine the feasibility of a zero percent interest rate.**

14 **(2) The university shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and may**
15 **include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committees of the Legislative As-**
16 **sembly related to higher education no later than September 15, 2024.**

17 **SECTION 2. Notwithstanding ORS 348.303, the Oregon Health and Science University may**
18 **not:**

19 **(1) Require the repayment of moneys from individuals described in section 1 (1) of this**
20 **2023 Act, or authorize the Collections Unit in the Department of Revenue or a collections**
21 **agency to collect any amounts required to be repaid; or**

22 **(2) Take any adverse actions against individuals described in section 1 (1) of this 2023 Act,**
23 **including but not limited to the withholding of academic transcripts.**

24 **SECTION 3. Sections 1 and 2 of this 2023 Act are repealed on July 2, 2025.**
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NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.