

## HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 2706

By COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

February 17

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, line 3, after “ORS” insert “348.272 and”.

2 Delete lines 5 through 31 and delete page 2 and insert:

3 “**SECTION 1.** ORS 350.300, as amended by section 2, chapter 42, Oregon Laws 2022, is amended  
4 to read:

5 “350.300. (1) Notwithstanding ORS 341.290, 352.105 or 353.050, a student who is a current foster  
6 child or former foster child or a current homeless youth or former homeless youth, under 25 years  
7 of age and enrolled in courses totaling one or more credit hours at an institution of higher education  
8 as an undergraduate student shall have the amount of tuition and all fees levied against the student  
9 waived if attending an institution of higher education for purposes of pursuing an initial under-  
10 graduate degree.

11 “(2) A student is entitled to waiver of tuition and all fees under subsection (1) of this section  
12 until the student has received the equivalent of four years of undergraduate education.

13 “(3) As a condition of receiving a tuition waiver for an academic year, the student must com-  
14 plete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for that academic year.

15 “(4) A waiver of tuition and all fees under subsection (1) of this section may be reduced by the  
16 amount of any federal aid scholarships or grants, an award from the Oregon Opportunity Grant  
17 program established under ORS 348.205 and any other aid received from the institution of higher  
18 education. For the purposes of this subsection, ‘federal aid scholarships or grants’ does not include  
19 Chafee Educational and Training Voucher Program grants under 42 U.S.C. 677.

20 “(5) As used in this section:

21 “(a) ‘Former foster child’ means an individual who, for **a total of 18 or more months while**  
22 **under 14 years of age or** a total of six or more months while between 14 and 21 years of age, was:

23 “(A) A ward of the court pursuant to ORS 419B.100 (1)(b) to (e), in the legal custody of the  
24 Department of Human Services for out-of-home placement [*and not dismissed from care before*  
25 *reaching 16 years of age*]; or

26 “(B) An Indian child subject to ORS 419B.600 to 419B.654, under the jurisdiction of a tribal court  
27 for out-of-home placement [*and not dismissed from care before reaching 16 years of age*].

28 “(b) ‘Homeless youth’ means a person who:

29 “(A) Experienced homelessness for a total of six or more months while between 14 and 24 years  
30 of age;

31 “(B) While experiencing homelessness as described in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, re-  
32 ceived services from an organization contracted by the Department of Human Services to provide  
33 services to homeless persons or from a host home, as defined by the department by rule; and

34 “(C) Was at least 16 years of age when the person last received the services described in sub-  
35 paragraph (B) of this paragraph.

1 “(c) ‘Institution of higher education’ means:  
2 “(A) A public university listed in ORS 352.002;  
3 “(B) A community college operated under ORS chapter 341; [or]  
4 “(C) **A career school, as defined in ORS 345.010; or**  
5 “[C] (D) The Oregon Health and Science University.  
6 “**SECTION 2.** ORS 348.272 is amended to read:  
7 “348.272. (1) As used in this section:  
8 “(a) ‘Former foster child’ has the meaning given that term in ORS 350.300.  
9 “(b) ‘Institution of higher education’ means:  
10 “(A) A public university listed in ORS 352.002[,];  
11 “(B) The Oregon Health and Science University[,];  
12 “(C) **A career school, as defined in ORS 345.010;**  
13 “(D) A community college operated under ORS chapter 341; or  
14 “(E) An Oregon-based, regionally accredited independent institution.  
15 “(2) In addition to any other scholarships provided by law, the Higher Education Coordinating  
16 Commission shall award scholarships to any individual applying for enrollment or enrolled in an  
17 institution of higher education who is a current foster child or former foster child.  
18 “(3) Scholarships awarded under this section shall be in an amount to be determined by the  
19 commission based on the funds that are made available for the awarding year.  
20 “(4) If a student who is a current foster child or former foster child continues to remain enrolled  
21 in a public university listed in ORS 352.002, a community college or an Oregon-based, regionally  
22 accredited independent institution, the student is entitled to apply for renewal of the scholarship  
23 until the student has received the equivalent of four years of undergraduate education.  
24 “(5) The Director of the Office of Student Access and Completion may require proof that a stu-  
25 dent is a current foster child or former foster child.  
26 “**SECTION 3. The amendments to ORS 348.272 and 350.300 by sections 1 and 2 of this 2023**  
27 **Act apply to tuition and fees assessed on and after the effective date of this 2023 Act.”.**  
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