

House Bill 2979

Sponsored by Representatives PHAM H, JAVADI, NOSSE, BYNUM, Senator CAMPOS; Senator PATTERSON (at the request of Oregon Dental Association) (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**.

Directs Higher Education Coordinating Commission to establish program to issue grants to community colleges to promote and increase dental assistant and dental hygienist training programs in Oregon.

Directs Department of Education to establish program to issue grants to school districts or education service districts to promote and increase career and technical education related to dental health professions.

Directs Oregon Health Authority to issue grants through health care provider incentive program to support and increase recruitment and retention of dental professionals.

Directs authority to develop and implement education and mentoring program to promote entry into dental professions by members of Indian tribes in Oregon.

Directs State Workforce and Talent Development Board to develop educational module relating to dental assisting.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to dental professions.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall establish a program**
5 **to issue grants to community colleges, as defined in ORS 341.005, to promote and increase**
6 **dental assistant and dental hygienist training programs in Oregon. Community colleges may**
7 **use grant moneys awarded under this section to support, expand, increase enrollment in,**
8 **provide scholarships for and market dental assistant or dental hygienist training programs.**

9 **(2) Community colleges may apply to the commission for grants. An application must**
10 **contain a statement of the community college's plan for the grant, if awarded, and any other**
11 **information required by rule of the commission.**

12 **(3) Before August 1 of each year, and subject to the availability of funding, the commis-**
13 **sion shall award grants to applicants whose applications meet all requirements specified by**
14 **the commission, in order of receipt of applications.**

15 **(4) The commission shall adopt rules to carry out the provisions of this section, including**
16 **specifying the required form and contents of an application for a grant under this section.**

17 **SECTION 2. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**
18 **ated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, for the biennium beginning July 1,**
19 **2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$5,000,000 to carry out the provisions of section**
20 **1 of this 2023 Act.**

21 **SECTION 3. (1) The Department of Education shall establish a program to issue grants**
22 **to school districts or education service districts to promote and increase career and techni-**
23 **cal education related to dental health professions.**

24 **(2) Districts may apply to the department for grants. An application must contain a**
25 **statement of the district's plan for the grant, if awarded, and any other information required**

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.

1 by rule of the department.

2 (3) Before August 1 of each year, and subject to the availability of funding, the depart-
3 ment shall award grants to applicants whose applications meet all requirements specified by
4 the department, in order of receipt of applications.

5 (4) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to carry out the provisions of this
6 section, including specifying the required form and contents of an application for a grant
7 under this section.

8 **SECTION 4.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
9 ated to the Department of Education, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the
10 General Fund, the amount of \$5,000,000 to carry out the provisions of section 3 of this 2023
11 Act.

12 **SECTION 5.** (1) As used in this section, “dental professional” includes dentists, dental
13 hygienists, dental assistants, dental therapists and dental community health aides.

14 (2) The Oregon Health Authority shall, through the health care provider incentive pro-
15 gram created under ORS 676.454 and in consultation with the Office of Rural Health, issue
16 grants to support and increase the recruitment and retention of dental professionals in all
17 regions of this state.

18 (3) In issuing grants under this section, the authority shall prioritize recruitment and
19 retention of dental professionals in rural areas, low-income communities and tribal lands.

20 **SECTION 6.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
21 ated to the Oregon Health Authority, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the
22 General Fund, the amount of \$7,000,000 to carry out the provisions of section 5 of this 2023
23 Act.

24 **SECTION 7.** (1) The Oregon Health Authority shall develop and implement an education
25 and mentoring program to promote the entry into dental professions by members of Indian
26 tribes in Oregon.

27 (2) The authority may carry out its duty under this section by entering into an agree-
28 ment with an Indian tribe or tribal entity to develop and implement the program described
29 in subsection (1) of this section.

30 (3) As used in this section:

31 (a) “Indian tribe” means a federally recognized Indian tribe in Oregon.

32 (b) “Tribal entity” means an entity wholly owned by an Indian tribe.

33 **SECTION 8.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
34 ated to the Oregon Health Authority, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the
35 General Fund, the amount of \$1,000,000 to carry out the provisions of section 7 of this 2023
36 Act.

37 **SECTION 9.** (1) The State Workforce and Talent Development Board shall develop an
38 educational module that serves as an introduction to the profession of dental assisting. The
39 board shall make the module available to the public at no cost.

40 (2) The board shall coordinate with the Department of Education, the Higher Education
41 Coordinating Commission, the Oregon Health Authority and any other relevant state agen-
42 cies to promote and market the module.

43 **SECTION 10.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appro-
44 priated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, for the biennium beginning July
45 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$2,000,000, for the State Workforce and Tal-

1 **ent Development Board to carry out the provisions of section 9 of this 2023 Act.**

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