HB 4163 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Higher Education

Prepared By: Ellen O'Brien, LPRO Analyst **Meeting Dates:** 2/8, 2/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to establish and administer a grant program to expand the scope and reach of college access and success programs. Eligible organizations include nonprofit organizations, community-based organizations, and public institutions of higher education.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Ability to build capacity and scale programs
- Ability for programs to compete for funding
- Impact on first generation and low income students

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The 2021-2023 and 2023-2025 legislative budgets both included a \$5 million appropriation to HECC to award grants to programs assisting students with access to post-secondary education opportunities. The budget reports for those measures, <u>House Bill 5006 (2021)</u> and <u>House Bill 5025 (2023)</u>, note that the appropriations were intended for distribution in amounts of \$1 million to five programs or organizations: Access to Student Assistance Programs in Reach of Everyone (ASPIRE), College Possible, Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID), BUILD EXITO at Portland State University, and the Oregon TRIO Association.

<u>House Bill 3120 (2023)</u>, as amended, would have required HECC to establish a grant program to award funds to college access and success programs to eligible organizations. House Bill 4119 reintroduces the provisions of House Bill 3120 (2023) that established that grant program.