

HB 2546 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Higher Education and Workforce Development

Prepared By: Ellen O'Brien, LPRO Analyst

Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 1/30

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure appropriates \$1.3 million to REAP, Inc.'s Young Entrepreneurs Program. The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on July 1, 2025.

Fiscal impact: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

Revenue impact: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

REAP, Inc. is a Portland-based nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide leadership development programs for low-income and culturally diverse youth. It serves students in grades three through 12. The Young Entrepreneurs Program (YEP) provides opportunities for students to develop entrepreneurship and networkings skills, including markets where students can sell their products, interviews with local business owners, and tours of local businesses across both Oregon and neighboring states.

[House Bill 5506 \(2023\)](#) appropriated \$586,500 to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) for distribution to the Young Entrepreneurs Program. According to quarterly reporting to HECC, the Legislative Assembly's 2023 appropriation resulted in 17 business concepts or ideas generated by students in YEP; six internships secured by participating students; and \$400 in total revenue generated by student-led businesses within the program.