HB 3027 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: 2/6, 2/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure allows the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to seek a court order against a career school that violates the agency's standards and licensing requirements.

FISCAL: Fiscal impact issued.

REVENUE: Revenue impact issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Agency consumer protection role
- Methods for enforcing compliance
- Circumstances in and frequency with which agency would pursue an injunction

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Under <u>ORS 345.010 to 345.340</u>, the <u>Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC)</u> is charged with licensing career schools and setting minimum standards regarding the quality and content of programs, the adequacy of facilities, and the qualifications of administrators and instructors. Requirements and procedures for the annual renewal of private career school licenses are codified in <u>Chapter 715</u>, <u>Division 45</u> of Oregon administrative rule.

Currently, HECC has the authority to suspend a career school's license or impose a financial penalty on a career school that violates licensing standards. House Bill 3027 would allow HECC to seek an injunction from a court to prevent an unlicensed or noncompliant career school from operating in Oregon, or to take action to bring them back into compliance with the law.