

## HB 2997 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On Higher Education and Workforce Development

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**Sub-Referral To:** Joint Committee On Ways and Means

**Meeting Dates:** 2/20

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#### 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.

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

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

#### BACKGROUND:

The 2021-2023 and 2023-2025 legislatively adopted budgets both included a \$5 million appropriation to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to award grants to programs assisting students with access to post-secondary education opportunities. The budget reports for those measures, [House Bill 5006 \(2021\)](#) and [House Bill 5025 \(2023\)](#), 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.

In 2023 and 2024, the Legislative Assembly considered [House Bill 3120 \(2023\)](#) and [House Bill 4163 \(2024\)](#), which would have required HECC to establish a grant program to award funds for college success and access programs to eligible organizations. House Bill 2997 reintroduces the provisions of those bills.