HB 2421 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Higher Education and Workforce Development

Prepared By:Ellen O'Brien, LPRO AnalystMeeting Dates:3/11, 3/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure adds independent institutions to the direct admissions program established by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC).

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

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

• Stage of development of Oregon direct admissions program

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-3 The amendment specifies that the direct admissions program may include private non-profit universities and colleges, rather than all independent institutions, and specifies that those institutions must agree to participate.

BACKGROUND:

Several states have enacted direct admissions policies to lower barriers for students to enter higher education. Direct admissions programs inform high school-age students when their qualifications, such as grade point average and standardized test scores, meet the criteria for admission to institutions of higher education. Students qualifying for admission under a direct admissions program typically have access to an abbreviated application process at participating institutions.

Section 11 of <u>Senate Bill 1552 (2022)</u> required the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to establish a direct admissions program for community colleges and public universities in Oregon.