HB 3694 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Higher Education and Workforce Development

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Meeting Dates: 3/25, 4/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure modifies statutes relating to the rights of college athletes in Oregon to control and profit from their name, image, and likeness (NIL). It protects a student athlete's contract from public disclosure law, as well as from disclosure to athletic associations or conferences. It permits institutions to directly compensate student athletes or prospective student athletes for the use of their name, image, likeness, or athletic reputation. It also prohibits student athletes from using their name, image, or likeness to promote products or brands related to certain topics, including alcohol, drugs, gambling, firearms, sexual entertainment, hate speech, violence or other topics prohibited by the higher education institution. The measure also prohibits associations, conferences, or other organizations from limiting institutions' support of student athletes' economic rights.

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

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

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In June 2021, the U.S. Supreme Court issued its ruling on National Collegiate Athletic Association v. Alston, which upheld the rights of student athletes to receive compensation for the use of their name, image, or likeness (NIL). Prior to this decision, the rules of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) restricted student athletes from earning compensation other than the cost of attendance at their college or university.

<u>Senate Bill 5 (2021)</u>, which guarantees student athletes' NIL rights in Oregon, passed in June 2021, simultaneous to the NCAA v. Alston ruling and subsequent NCAA policy change. <u>Senate Bill 1505 (2022)</u> added an additional requirement that student athletes receive royalties for the use of their name, image, or likeness on team jerseys, trading cards, or video games. <u>House Bill 4119 (2024)</u> allowed institutions to directly assist student athletes in securing NIL deals and gave liability protections to colleges and universities.

Since 2021, donors and institutions have increased their participation in securing NIL deals and advising student athletes. Donors at institutions across the country have formed institution-specific collectives, which pool donor resources and provide a variety of services to student athletes engaged in NIL deals. There are at least two NIL collectives in Oregon: Dam Nation Collective for Oregon State University (OSU) student athletes, and Division Street for student athletes at the University of Oregon (UO). In addition, Oregon institutions including OSU, UO, and Portland State University offer student athletes mentorship and networking opportunities for NIL activities through their athletic departments.

A settlement in <u>ongoing lawsuits</u> against the NCAA that was proposed in March 2025 would allow student athletes to be paid directly by universities and proposes a revenue-sharing framework for schools and athletes. A final hearing on the settlement is scheduled for April 7.