HB 3731 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Prepared By: Ellen O'Brien, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure modifies the reporting requirements related to sexual misconduct at institutions of higher education. It adds both optional and required narrative sections to the annual report submitted by institutions of higher education. It permits the executive summary for the report to be an unlimited number of pages. It first adds the required narrative section to reports submitted for the 2024-25 academic year and applies other changes to reports submitted for the 2025-26 academic year. The amendment declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.

Fiscal impact: Has minimal fiscal impact. Revenue impact: No revenue impact.

HOUSE VOTE: Ayes, 48; Nays, 1

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

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EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 3456 (2023) created a Sexual Misconduct Survey Council to develop a standard statewide sexual misconduct climate survey. It also implemented specific requirements for how institutions of higher education should address sexual misconduct on campus, including collecting and reporting certain data, providing prevention and awareness training to students and employees, and offering certain services to students who report experiencing sexual misconduct. The requirements, modified by House Bill 4164 (2024) and codified in ORS 350.335 to 350.346, are in addition to provisions passed in Senate Bill 759 (2015) and House Bill 3415 (2019) that require institutions of higher education to adopt a written protocol and written policies concerning sexual violence and misconduct. Requirements for those policies and protocols are codified in ORS 350.253 and ORS 350.255.

The first reports in accordance with House Bill 3456 (2023) were submitted to the Legislative Assembly in 2024. The ORS 350.345 Annual Report Relating to Sexual Misconduct from each university and community college is available on the Oregon Legislature's <u>website</u>. Examples of this report include those submitted by the <u>University</u> of Oregon, Western Oregon University, and Treasure Valley Community College.