

HB 2649 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Prepared By: Ellen O'Brien, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/5, 5/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure permits the governing boards of technical and regional universities to develop a program for cooperation with countries located in East Asia and to charge qualifying students from those countries a tuition rate that is equivalent to average resident tuition at regional and technical universities. It permits the boards to charge service fees to students in the program. The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.

Fiscal impact: Has indeterminate fiscal impact.

Revenue impact: No revenue impact.

HOUSE VOTE: Ayes, 42; Nays, 9

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Plans for partnerships in Taiwanese and Vietnamese institutions
- Changes to federal funding for public higher education
- University revenues from in-state and out-of-state tuition

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Of the seven public universities in the state of Oregon, four - Oregon Institute of Technology (OIT), Southern Oregon University (SOU), Eastern Oregon University (EOU), and Western Oregon University (WOU) - are colloquially referred to as the state's technical and regional universities (TRUs).

On [August 15, 2024](#), the presidents of the TRUs signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Wenzao University in Kaohsiung, Taiwan. According to the press release published by EOU and [WOU](#), the MOU aims to foster teacher-student exchanges, student mobility programs, joint research initiatives, and Chinese language programs.