

SB 798 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Meek

Senate Committee On Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal and World Affairs

Action Date: 02/18/25
Action: Do pass.
Vote: 4-0-1-0
Yeas: 4 - Manning Jr, Meek, Smith DB, Woods
Exc: 1 - Thatcher
Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact
Revenue: No revenue impact
Prepared By: Kevin Rancik, LPRO Analyst
Meeting Dates: 2/6, 2/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure provides that members of the Oregon National Guard residing in another state are considered Oregon residents for the purpose of admission and determination of fees and tuition while attending an eligible public university.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Difficulty in predicting the number of members and dependents who might use the benefit
- Eligibility for remote learning
- Existing eligibility of National Guard members and dependents for in-state tuition at community colleges
- Inclusion of Space Force in legislation
- Increasing role of technology in the military

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon currently has seven public universities, all of which charge higher tuition for Oregon nonresidents.

Existing statute contains provisions counting

- members of the United States Armed Forces,
- active commissioned members of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Public Health Service on duty with the Army or Navy, and
- their spouses and children,

as residents for tuition purposes if they

- are assigned duty at an establishment in Oregon, or
- establish Oregon residency by filing Oregon state income taxes no later than one year before leaving active duty.

[Senate Bill 1032 \(2023\)](#) allowed for grants for qualified Oregon National Guard members to cover certain costs at specific institutions. Senate Bill 798 counts members of the Oregon National Guard as Oregon residents for tuition purposes if they reside in another state.