

SB 977 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Action Date: 04/09/25

Action: Do pass with amendments. Refer to Ways and Means by prior reference. (Printed A-Eng).

Vote: 4-1-0-0

Yeas: 4 - Frederick, Gelser Blouin, Sollman, Weber

Nays: 1 - Robinson

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Ellen O'Brien, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/17, 4/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure establishes a program that provides a full post-secondary educational experience for youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities at community colleges, in coordination with the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) and Portland State University (PSU). It appropriates \$600,000 from the General Fund for distribution to PSU to support the Career and Community Services Program and appropriates \$900,000 from the General Fund for distribution to community colleges that participate in the program. It declares an emergency and takes effect July 1, 2025.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Outcomes for students in the Career and Community Services (CCS) program
- Intention to expand the CCS to community colleges
- Impact of access to higher education on individuals with disabilities
- Lack of federal and state funding to admit new students

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

The amendment removes provisions establishing the Task Force on Ensuring Post-Secondary Educational Opportunities for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill 977 redrafts provisions of [Senate Bill 572 \(2023\)](#), which moved out of the Senate Committee on Education and remained in the Joint Committee on Ways and Means upon adjournment.

Portland State University (PSU)'s Career & Community Studies (CCS) program is a pre-baccalaureate, non-degree certificate program that offers students with intellectual and developmental disabilities a four-year college experience with inclusive courses, campus housing, and campus events and activities, as well as integrated employment opportunities. The program has been operating since 2015.