

**HB 2649 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Rep. Wright

**House Committee On Higher Education and Workforce Development**

---

**Action Date:** 04/08/25

**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

**Vote:** 7-0-0-0

**Yeas:** 7 - Fragala, Harbick, Hudson, McDonald, Munoz, Wright, Yunker

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Ellen O'Brien, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 3/6, 4/3, 4/8

---

**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 amendment declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Intent of language in the measure
- Provisions of amendment
- Proposed program for international partnerships
- Focus on partnerships in East Asia
- Intention to establish one program for all four universities

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

The amendment replaces the measure.

**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.