

SENATE AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 142

By COMMITTEE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

April 7

On page 1 of the printed bill, line 2, after “workforce” insert “; and declaring an emergency”.

Delete lines 4 through 25 and delete page 2 and insert:

“SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:

“(a) ‘Behavioral health care’ means services and supports for individuals who have mental health disorders or substance use disorders.

“(b) ‘Critical workforce shortage’ means a current or projected shortage of workers within an industry or occupation that is considered to be critical to the well-being of the communities and economy of this state.

“(c) ‘Post-secondary institution’ means:

“(A) A public university listed in ORS 352.002;

“(B) A community college operated under ORS chapter 341;

“(C) The Oregon Health and Science University; or

“(D) An Oregon-based, generally accredited, not-for-profit institution of higher education.

“(d) ‘Scholarship’ means moneys paid to an eligible student enrolled in a post-secondary institution that offers eligible programs of study for the purpose of paying the student’s tuition or training costs, without any obligation for the student to provide service to the state.

“(2) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall establish a program to award scholarships to individuals from priority populations, as defined in ORS 660.300, that may be used to cover costs incurred by the individuals, including tuition, fees and other training costs, as a result of attendance at a post-secondary institution that offers eligible programs of study that the commission determines are preparatory for careers in behavioral health care shortage areas.

“(3) The commission shall determine whether a program of study is eligible based on:

“(a) Information compiled, or recommendations made, by the statewide industry consortia, convened under ORS 660.410, that represent the health care sector; and

“(b) Whether the program of study aligns with critical workforce shortages at behavioral health care entities.

“(4) The commission may determine the amounts in which scholarships are awarded under this section. A scholarship may be awarded to an individual under this section in addition to any other form of student financial aid that the individual receives, as allowed by law.

“(5) The commission shall, in consultation with the Oregon Health Authority, adopt rules to carry out this section.

“SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section:

“(a) ‘Behavioral health care’ means services and supports for individuals who have mental health disorders or substance use disorders.

1 “(b) ‘Critical workforce shortage’ means a current or projected shortage of workers
2 within an industry or occupation that is considered to be critical to the well-being of the
3 communities and economy of this state.

4 “(2) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall establish a program to award
5 grants to eligible entities that submit proposals to the commission. A grant awarded under
6 this section may be used by an eligible entity for the following purposes:

7 “(a) Addressing barriers to education and training program development and expansion,
8 including but not limited to, hiring faculty and staff, curricula development, clinical place-
9 ment capacity and equipment purchases;

10 “(b) Providing wraparound workforce development services;

11 “(c) Providing paid clinical hours;

12 “(d) Offering scholarships for workforce programs; and

13 “(e) Other activities identified in a grant proposal submitted under this section that are
14 necessary to administer workforce programs described under this section.

15 “(3) An eligible entity that may receive a grant under this section includes:

16 “(a)(A) A public university listed in ORS 352.002;

17 “(B) The Oregon Health and Science University;

18 “(C) A community college operated under ORS chapter 341; and

19 “(D) An Oregon-based, regionally accredited independent institution that offers programs
20 of study determined by the commission to be preparatory for careers in behavioral health
21 care shortage areas;

22 “(b) A workforce service provider, as defined in ORS 660.400, that administers workforce
23 programs in behavioral health care and prioritizes equitable program participation by indi-
24 viduals from priority populations, as defined in ORS 660.300; and

25 “(c) A community-based organization, including:

26 “(A) A nonprofit organization that is representative of a particular community or specific
27 segments of a community, and is located within, or in close proximity to, the community
28 served by the organization; and

29 “(B) A culturally specific organization that serves a particular cultural community, is
30 primarily staffed and led by members of that community and that demonstrates intimate
31 knowledge of the lived experience of that community.

32 “(4) The commission shall award the grants under this section on a competitive basis,
33 taking into consideration proposals that:

34 “(a) Describe how the eligible entity is addressing a behavioral health care critical
35 workforce shortage in behavioral health care settings;

36 “(b) Describe how the eligible entity intends to engage with behavioral health care em-
37 ployers to provide workforce development opportunities for individuals from priority popu-
38 lations;

39 “(c) Describe how the eligible entity intends to collaborate with one or more of the fol-
40 lowing to increase accessibility to workforce programs and opportunities for priority popu-
41 lations:

42 “(A) Workforce service providers, as defined in ORS 660.400;

43 “(B) Community-based organizations, as defined in ORS 660.390;

44 “(C) Kindergartens and elementary and secondary schools;

45 “(D) Community colleges;

1 “(E) Education and training partners;

2 “(F) Local workforce development boards, as defined in ORS 660.300;

3 “(G) Economic development organizations;

4 “(H) Industry associations; and

5 “(I) Universities, as defined in ORS 660.350; and

6 “(d) Prioritize opportunities to leverage the use of other funding sources, including federal funds and private sector gifts, grants, donations and other contributions, toward workforce programs and opportunities.

9 “(5) In awarding the grants under this section, the commission shall consult with the Oregon Health Authority, individuals who are experts in the behavioral health care field and statewide industry consortia, convened under ORS 660.410, that represent the health care sector.

13 “(6)(a) An eligible entity that receives a grant under this section shall submit a report at the intervals and in the manner required by the commission. The report must include, insofar as the information is relevant to the eligible entity:

16 “(A) The number of individuals who have registered for or completed a workforce program in behavioral health care;

18 “(B) The job placement rate for, and income earnings by, individuals described in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph;

20 “(C) The number of individuals from priority populations who receive services or benefits from workforce programs administered by the eligible entity; and

22 “(D) A description of the types and amounts of wraparound workforce development services that the eligible entity provides.

24 “(b) In prescribing the form and manner of the report described in this subsection, the commission shall seek to minimize the administrative burden imposed on the entities to the extent practicable.

27 “(c) The commission shall continually compile the information described in paragraph (a) of this subsection from eligible entities that receive grants under this section, in a manner that disaggregates the data by race, age, gender and geographical area.

30 “(7) The commission may, in consultation with the authority and the statewide industry consortia, adopt rules to carry out this section.

32 “SECTION 3. (1) As used in this section:

33 “(a) ‘Behavioral health care’ means services and supports for individuals who have mental health disorders or substance use disorders.

35 “(b) ‘Loan forgiveness’ means moneys paid to an eligible educational institution on behalf of an eligible student for the purpose of paying the student’s tuition and fees in exchange for the student’s service obligation to this state of at least two years beginning on the date of graduation from the eligible educational institution or completion of a residency program.

39 “(2) The Oregon Health Authority shall establish a program to award grants to eligible entities. The grants awarded under this section must be used to foster the recruitment and retention of behavioral health care providers at the eligible entities.

42 “(3) An entity is eligible to receive grants under this section if the entity:

43 “(a)(A) Has been certified by the authority to provide behavioral health care;

44 “(B) Operates an outpatient or residential facility; or

45 “(C) Provides team-based care and serves individuals with acute behavioral health needs;

1 or

2 “(b)(A) Provides behavioral health care to adults or youth of which at least 50 percent
3 are uninsured or enrolled in the state medical assistance program or Medicare; and

4 “(B) Is a culturally specific organization that serves a particular community and is pri-
5 marily staffed and led by individuals who are members of the community who demonstrate
6 knowledge of the lived experience of the community.

7 “(4) An entity that receives a grant under subsection (2) of this section may use the
8 funds to provide the following to behavioral health care providers, in an effort to increase
9 the recruitment and retention of behavioral health care providers at the entity:

10 “(a) Loan forgiveness incentives;

11 “(b) Housing assistance;

12 “(c) Professional development and training supports;

13 “(d) Child care subsidies; and

14 “(e) Clinical supervision.

15 “(5)(a) An entity that receives a grant under subsection (2) of this section shall report
16 to the authority, in the form and manner prescribed by the authority, on how the entity
17 spent the grant and how the expenditures impacted the recruitment and retention of be-
18 havioral health care providers at the entity. The report must include, as applicable to the
19 entity, the following information:

20 “(A) The licensure, certification or position type of each behavioral health care provider
21 who received an incentive listed in subsection (4) of this section;

22 “(B) The number of individuals from priority populations, as defined in ORS 660.300, who
23 receive services or benefits from workforce programs administered by the entity, and the
24 data described in ORS 413.161 in regard to each individual;

25 “(C) The amount of grant moneys spent per behavioral health care provider; and

26 “(D) The entity’s staffing vacancy rate prior to receiving the grant under subsection (2)
27 of this section and after receiving the grant under subsection (2) of this section.

28 “(b) In prescribing the form and manner of the report described in this subsection, the
29 authority shall seek to minimize the administrative burden imposed on the entities to the
30 extent practicable.

31 “SECTION 4. (1) As used in this section:

32 “(a) ‘Behavioral health care’ means services and supports for individuals who have men-
33 tal health disorders or substance use disorders.

34 “(b) ‘Critical workforce shortage’ means a current or projected shortage of workers
35 within an industry or occupation that is considered to be critical to the well-being of the
36 communities and economy of this state.

37 “(c) ‘Loan forgiveness’ has the meaning given that term in section 3 of this 2025 Act.

38 “(d) ‘Loan repayment’ means moneys awarded to an eligible health care provider cur-
39 rently working in the field at an eligible entity for the purpose of paying qualifying educa-
40 tional debt incurred by the health care provider in exchange the health care provider’s
41 service obligation to this state for a period of at least two years.

42 “(2) The Oregon Health Authority and the Office of Rural Health may enter into an
43 intergovernmental agreement through which the authority disburses moneys to the office for
44 the purpose of funding a grant program administered by the office. The grant program must
45 award loan forgiveness grants and loan repayment grants to behavioral health care providers

1 who are identified by the office as critical workforce shortage behavioral health care pro-
2 viders.

3 “(3) The intergovernmental agreement described in this section must include a require-
4 ment that the office report to the authority in order to facilitate the authority’s partic-
5 ipation in the reporting described in section 5 of this 2025 Act.

6 “**SECTION 5.** (1) In consultation with the Oregon Health Authority, the Higher Education
7 Coordinating Commission shall annually review the scholarship and grant programs estab-
8 lished under sections 1 to 4 of this 2025 Act to assess the performance and expenditure out-
9 comes of the programs. In evaluating the programs, the commission shall:

10 “(a) Evaluate the equity impact of the programs; and

11 “(b) Compile the following information, disaggregated by priority population and program
12 type as is practicable:

13 “(A) The number of individuals who receive scholarships or grants or who participate
14 with eligible entities that receive grants awarded under sections 2 to 4 of this 2025 Act;

15 “(B) The completion rates for any programming and services offered by eligible entities
16 that receive grants under sections 2 to 4 of this 2025 Act;

17 “(C) The education and employment outcomes of individuals described in subparagraph
18 (A) of this paragraph; and

19 “(D) The expenditures for and types of support services provided by eligible entities that
20 receive grants under sections 2 to 4 of this 2025 Act.

21 “(2)(a) Not later than June 30 of each year, the commission shall submit a report, in the
22 manner provided in ORS 192.245, to the Governor and to the interim committees of the
23 Legislative Assembly related to the behavioral health workforce. The report must include the
24 information described in subsection (1) of this section for the calendar year immediately
25 preceding the year in which the report is submitted and may include any recommendations
26 for future investments and opportunities to leverage private and federal funding to support
27 behavioral health workforce investments.

28 “(b) The report must also include, based on the information obtained from the annual
29 review described in subsection (1) of this section, baseline estimates of statewide workforce
30 participation rates that include, at minimum, long-term employment projections for the be-
31 havioral health workforce, and projections related to post-secondary educational attainment
32 needs and how the scholarship and grant programs established in sections 1 to 4 of this 2025
33 Act contribute to the statewide workforce participation.

34 “**SECTION 6.** There is appropriated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission,
35 for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$25,700,000
36 for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of sections 1, 2 and 5 of this 2025 Act.

37 “**SECTION 7.** There is appropriated to the Oregon Health Authority, for the biennium
38 beginning July 1, 2025, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$13,838,520 for the purpose
39 of carrying out the provisions of sections 2, 3 and 5 of this 2025 Act.

40 “**SECTION 8.** There is appropriated to the Oregon Health Authority, for the biennium
41 beginning July 1, 2025, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$8,911,458 for the purpose of
42 carrying out the provisions of sections 3 and 4 of this 2025 Act.

43 “**SECTION 9.** This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
44 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect
45 on July 1, 2025.”.

