

Requested by Senator BONHAM

**PROPOSED MINORITY REPORT AMENDMENTS TO
A-ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 3954**

1 On page 1 of the printed A-engrossed bill, line 2, after “Guard” insert “;
2 creating new provisions; amending ORS 413.650; and declaring an
3 emergency”.

4 Delete lines 4 through 23 and delete page 2 and insert:

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

6 **“(a) ‘Eligible dependent’ means a person who is under the age of**
7 **26 and is a natural child, adopted child, stepchild or child under the**
8 **guardianship of a member or retired member of the Oregon National**
9 **Guard.**

10 **“(b) ‘Eligible post-secondary institution’ has the meaning given that**
11 **term in ORS 348.180.**

12 **“(c) ‘Retired member’ means a person who has completed at least**
13 **20 years of service in the Oregon National Guard and was discharged**
14 **or released under honorable conditions.**

15 **“(2) The Office of Student Access and Completion shall administer**
16 **a program to provide tuition assistance to eligible dependents of**
17 **members or retired members of the Oregon National Guard as pro-**
18 **vided by this section.**

19 **“(3) Subject to subsections (8) to (11) of this section, the office shall**
20 **provide a grant for courses at an eligible post-secondary institution to**
21 **a person who meets the criteria described in subsections (4) to (7) of**

1 **this section. The grant shall be limited as provided by subsections (8)**
2 **to (11) of this section.**

3 **“(4) A grant shall be awarded under this section to a person who**
4 **meets the following criteria:**

5 **“(a) Is an eligible dependent;**

6 **“(b) Is enrolled in courses that are:**

7 **“(A) Offered at an eligible post-secondary institution; and**

8 **“(B) Determined by the office, in accordance with rules adopted by**
9 **the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, to be required for**
10 **completion of:**

11 **“(i) A one-year curriculum for students who plan to transfer to**
12 **another post-secondary institution of education;**

13 **“(ii) An associate degree;**

14 **“(iii) A baccalaureate degree; or**

15 **“(iv) A program in career and technical education;**

16 **“(c) Has been a resident of this state for at least 12 months prior**
17 **to enrolling in the courses described in paragraph (b) of this sub-**
18 **section;**

19 **“(d) Attained the person’s highest level of education, except as**
20 **provided in subsection (6) of this section, in this state prior to:**

21 **“(A) Receiving a diploma under ORS 329.451;**

22 **“(B) Receiving a certificate for passing an approved high school**
23 **equivalency test such as the General Educational Development (GED)**
24 **test as provided by ORS 350.175;**

25 **“(C) Completing grade 12 in compliance with the requirements of**
26 **ORS 339.035; or**

27 **“(D) Completing grade 12 at a private or parochial school, as de-**
28 **scribed in ORS 339.030 (1)(a);**

29 **“(e) Except as provided in subsections (5) and (6) of this section,**
30 **attained the person’s highest level of education as described in para-**

1 graph (d) of this subsection within six months from the date that the
2 person first enrolls in courses described in paragraph (b) of this sub-
3 section for the purpose of receiving a grant under this section;

4 “(f) Earned a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or better in high
5 school or otherwise demonstrated an equivalent academic ability, as
6 determined by the office according to rules adopted by the commis-
7 sion;

8 “(g) Completed and submitted the Free Application for Federal
9 Student Aid for each academic year and accepted all state and federal
10 aid grants available to the person, if eligible to file the application;

11 “(h) Has not completed either of the following:

12 “(A) More than a total of 120 credit hours, or the equivalent, at a
13 post-secondary institution of education; or

14 “(B) A curriculum, degree or program, as described in paragraph
15 (b)(B) of this subsection; and

16 “(i) Has not previously received grants under this section in
17 amounts that cover a total of two years of enrollment.

18 “(5)(a) If a person otherwise meets the required criteria and has
19 been awarded a grant under subsection (4) of this section, but the
20 person enters into service with a career and technical student organ-
21 ization relating to agriculture or farming that is approved by the De-
22 partment of Education under ORS 344.077 within six months after the
23 person attained the person’s highest level of education as described in
24 subsection (4)(d) of this section, the person will continue to be eligible
25 to receive the grant if the person first enrolls in courses described in
26 subsection (4)(b) of this section within six months of finishing the
27 person’s service with the career and technical student organization.

28 “(b) In addition to the situation described in paragraph (a) of this
29 subsection, the commission may waive the requirement set forth in
30 subsection (4)(e) of this section for a person who shows that the person

1 was unable to timely enroll in courses described in subsection (4)(b)
2 of this section due to a significant hardship. The commission may
3 adopt rules to implement this paragraph.

4 “(6)(a) An eligible dependent who is a member of the Oregon Na-
5 tional Guard and who has completed initial active duty training is not
6 required to comply with the criteria set forth in subsection (4)(e) of
7 this section in order to receive a grant, provided that the member first
8 enrolls in courses described in subsection (4)(b) of this section within
9 six months after completing initial active duty training, as evidenced
10 by an official form issued by the United States Department of Defense.

11 “(b)(A) A person who completes the highest level of education as
12 described in subsection (4)(d) of this section while confined in a
13 correctional facility, either serving a sentence of incarceration or as
14 a young person, youth or adjudicated youth, is not required to comply
15 with the criteria set forth in subsection (4)(e) of this section in order
16 to receive a grant, provided that the person first enrolls in courses
17 described in subsection (4)(b) of this section within six months after
18 the date on which the person is first released from a correctional fa-
19 cility following completion of the highest level of education described
20 in subsection (4)(d) of this section.

21 “(B) The eligibility requirements described in subsection (7)(a)(C)
22 of this section may be waived by the office according to rules adopted
23 by the commission for a person who receives a grant under this sec-
24 tion in the manner described in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph.

25 “(C) As used in this paragraph:

26 “(i) ‘Adjudicated youth,’ ‘detention facility,’ ‘young person’ and
27 ‘youth’ have the meanings given those terms in ORS 419A.004.

28 “(ii) ‘Correctional facility’ means any place used for the confine-
29 ment of young persons, youths or adjudicated youths or persons
30 charged with or convicted of a crime or otherwise confined under a

1 **court order, including a:**

2 **“(I) Youth correction facility;**

3 **“(II) Detention facility;**

4 **“(III) Department of Corrections institution;**

5 **“(IV) Local correctional facility; or**

6 **“(V) State hospital or a secure intensive community inpatient fa-**
7 **cility, with respect to persons detained therein who are youths or ad-**
8 **judicated youths, who are charged with or convicted of a crime or who**
9 **are detained therein after having been found guilty except for insanity**
10 **of a crime under ORS 161.290 to 161.373 or having been found respon-**
11 **sible except for insanity under ORS 419C.411.**

12 **“(iii) ‘Department of Corrections institution’ has the meaning given**
13 **that term in ORS 421.005.**

14 **“(iv) ‘Local correctional facility’ has the meaning given that term**
15 **in ORS 169.005.**

16 **“(v) ‘Youth correction facility’ has the meaning given that term in**
17 **ORS 420.005.**

18 **“(c)(A) If a person was a foster child:**

19 **“(i) The person shall be treated as meeting the residency criteria**
20 **for eligibility under subsection (4)(c) of this section if, but for the**
21 **person’s placement in out-of-state foster care, the person otherwise**
22 **meets the requirements of subsection (4)(c) of this section.**

23 **“(ii) The person shall be treated as attaining the person’s highest**
24 **level of education in this state under subsection (4)(d) of this section**
25 **if the person attained the person’s highest level of education while**
26 **placed in out-of-state foster care and the person’s highest level of ed-**
27 **ucation substantially meets the requirements under subsection (4)(d)**
28 **of this section.**

29 **“(iii) The person is not required to comply with the criteria set**
30 **forth in subsection (4)(e) of this section in order to receive a grant**

1 provided that the person completes the highest level of education as
2 described in subparagraph (A)(ii) of this paragraph while in a treat-
3 ment program and the person first enrolls in courses described in
4 subsection (4)(b) of this section within 12 months after the date on
5 which the person is released from the treatment program.

6 “(B) Upon request from the commission, the Department of Human
7 Services shall provide documentation of the placement status of a
8 person described in paragraph (c)(A) of this subsection.

9 “(C) As used in this paragraph:

10 “(i) ‘Foster care’ means substitute care for children placed by the
11 Department of Human Services or a tribal child welfare agency away
12 from the child’s parents and for whom the department or agency has
13 placement and care responsibility, including placements in foster
14 family homes, foster homes of relatives, group homes, emergency
15 shelters, residential facilities, child care institutions and preadoptive
16 homes.

17 “(ii) ‘Foster child’ means a child over whom the Department of
18 Human Services retained jurisdiction under ORS 417.200 for the dura-
19 tion of the child’s placement in foster care outside the State of
20 Oregon.

21 “(7)(a) A person continues to remain eligible to receive a grant un-
22 der this section if the person, in addition to satisfying the criteria
23 specified in subsection (4) of this section, meets the following criteria:

24 “(A) Maintains at least the minimum cumulative grade point aver-
25 age prescribed by the commission based on federal aid grant require-
26 ments;

27 “(B) Makes satisfactory academic progress toward a curriculum,
28 degree or program, as described in subsection (4)(b)(B) of this section,
29 as prescribed by the commission based on federal aid grant require-
30 ments; and

1 **“(C) Enrolls in courses described in subsection (4)(b) of this section**
2 **for a sufficient number of credit hours to be considered at least a**
3 **half-time student each term for at least three terms in each consec-**
4 **utive academic year.**

5 **“(b) A person who fails to meet an eligibility requirement described**
6 **in paragraph (a) of this subsection becomes ineligible to receive a**
7 **grant under this section for the term after which the person fails to**
8 **meet the eligibility requirement, unless the eligibility requirement is**
9 **waived by the office according to rules adopted by the commission.**

10 **“(8)(a) The total amount of a grant awarded under this section shall**
11 **be based on each term that a person is enrolled in courses described**
12 **in subsection (4)(b) of this section. Except as provided in subsections**
13 **(10) and (11) of this section, after the amount of tuition for the person**
14 **for the term is reduced by any amounts received by the person in state**
15 **and federal aid grants, the person shall be eligible for a grant under**
16 **this section in an amount that equals:**

17 **“(A) Except as provided by paragraph (b) of this subsection, not less**
18 **than the greater of:**

19 **“(i) \$2,000, adjusted for inflation based on the increase of the aver-**
20 **age cost of tuition at a community college operated under ORS chapter**
21 **341 in a manner determined by the commission by rule; and**

22 **“(ii) The person’s actual cost for tuition.**

23 **“(B) Not more than the lesser of:**

24 **“(i) The average cost of tuition at a community college in this state,**
25 **as determined by the office; and**

26 **“(ii) The person’s actual cost for tuition.**

27 **“(b)(A) If the office determines both that the person’s actual cost**
28 **for tuition exceeds the amount set forth in paragraph (a)(A)(i) of this**
29 **subsection and that the person’s actual cost for tuition exceeds the**
30 **average cost of tuition at a community college in this state, the person**

1 shall be eligible for a grant in an amount that equals the average cost
2 of tuition at a community college in this state.

3 “(B) If the office determines that the person’s actual cost for tui-
4 tion is less than the amount set forth in paragraph (a)(A)(i) of this
5 subsection, the person shall be eligible for a grant in an amount that
6 equals the amount set forth in paragraph (a)(A)(i) of this subsection.

7 “(c) The minimum amount of a grant, as calculated under para-
8 graphs (a) and (b) of this subsection, may be prorated for a person who
9 is enrolled in courses described in subsection (4)(b) of this section for
10 a sufficient number of credit hours to be considered at least a half-
11 time student but not a full-time student.

12 “(d) The commission may prescribe by rule whether to include fees,
13 and any limitations related to the inclusion of fees, when determining
14 the actual cost of tuition or the average cost of tuition under this
15 subsection.

16 “(9) The commission may adopt by rule the priority by which grants
17 are awarded, which may allow for preference to be given to persons
18 enrolled in school districts or high schools that meet specified criteria.

19 “(10) Prior to the start of the fall term of each academic year, the
20 commission shall determine whether there are sufficient moneys to
21 award a grant under this section to each person who meets the criteria
22 described in subsections (4) to (7) of this section. When making a de-
23 termination under this subsection, the commission may consider both
24 projected resources and statutory modifications that will take effect
25 during the current biennium. On the basis of this determination the
26 commission may:

27 “(a) Limit eligibility to receive a grant under this section to a per-
28 son whose financial resources, as determined by the commission by
29 rule, are at or below the level the commission determines is necessary
30 to allow the commission to operate the Oregon Promise program with

1 available moneys; or

2 “(b) Reduce or eliminate any limitation on eligibility previously
3 imposed by the commission under paragraph (a) of this subsection.

4 “(11)(a) If at any time the commission determines that there are
5 insufficient moneys to provide a grant to each person who has been
6 awarded a grant under this section, the commission may decrease the
7 total amount of the grant awarded.

8 “(b) If at any time the commission determines that the amount of
9 moneys available to operate the Oregon Promise program exceeds the
10 amount determined under subsection (10) of this section, the commis-
11 sion may reduce or eliminate any limitation on eligibility to receive a
12 grant under this section that was previously imposed by the commis-
13 sion under subsection (10)(a) of this section.

14 “(c) The commission shall promptly notify the interim committees
15 of the Legislative Assembly responsible for higher education each time
16 the commission takes any action under paragraph (a) or (b) of this
17 subsection.

18 “(12) The commission shall adopt any rules necessary for the ad-
19 ministration of this section, including any requirements related to:

20 “(a) Specifying the form and timelines for submitting an application
21 for a grant under this section;

22 “(b) Determining whether a person is eligible for a grant under this
23 section, including whether the person shall be given priority as allowed
24 under subsection (9) of this section;

25 “(c) Implementing programs or policies that improve the academic
26 success or completion rates for persons who receive a grant under this
27 section;

28 “(d) Prescribing eligibility requirements and grant calculations for
29 persons dually enrolled in a community college and a public univer-
30 sity; and

1 “(e) Evaluating the impact of the program established under this
2 section, including any requirements for reporting data needed for
3 evaluations.

4 “(13) No later than December 31 of each even-numbered year, the
5 commission shall submit to an interim legislative committee related
6 to education a report that summarizes the commission’s findings on
7 the impact of the program established under this section. The report
8 shall include:

9 “(a) Student completion rates of curricula, degrees and programs
10 described in subsection (4)(b)(B) of this section;

11 “(b) The amount of federal aid grants received by persons who re-
12 ceived a grant under this section;

13 “(c) The financial impact of the program on school districts that
14 had students receive a grant under this section;

15 “(d) The financial impact and the enrollment impact of the program
16 on community colleges and public universities in this state; and

17 “(e) The overall success rate of the program and financial impact
18 of the program.

19 “SECTION 2. ORS 413.650 is amended to read:

20 “413.650. (1) As used in this section:

21 “(a) ‘Dental care organization’ means a prepaid managed care health ser-
22 vices organization, as defined in ORS 414.025, that provides dental care to
23 members of a coordinated care organization.

24 “(b) ‘Medical assistance’ has the meaning given that term in ORS 414.025.

25 “(c) ‘Veteran’ means an individual who is a veteran, as defined in ORS
26 408.225, except the individual may be discharged or released under honorable
27 or other than honorable conditions.

28 “(2) The Veterans Dental Program is established in the Oregon Health
29 Authority and shall be administered in collaboration with the Department
30 of Consumer and Business Services. The purpose of the program is to provide

1 oral health care to eligible veterans who are residing in Oregon **and mem-**
2 **bers of the Oregon National Guard on active duty.**

3 “(3) The authority shall contract with dental care organizations through-
4 out this state and with individual oral health care providers in areas of this
5 state that are not served by dental care organizations to provide oral health
6 care to veterans **and members of the Oregon National Guard on active**
7 **duty who are** enrolled in the Veterans Dental Program.

8 “(4) Enrollees in the Veterans Dental Program shall receive the types and
9 extent of oral health care services that the authority determines will be
10 provided to medical assistance recipients in accordance with ORS 414.065,
11 without any corresponding copayments, deductibles or cost sharing required.

12 “(5) An individual is eligible for the Veterans Dental Program if the in-
13 dividual:

14 “(a)(A) Is a resident of Oregon;

15 “[*b*] (B) Is ineligible for medical assistance;

16 “[*c*] (C) Has income that is at or below 400 percent of the federal pov-
17 erty guidelines; and

18 “[*d*] (D) Is a veteran; **or**

19 **“(b)(A) Is a member of the Oregon National Guard on active duty;**
20 **and**

21 **“(B) Does not have dental insurance coverage.**

22 “(6) The authority shall:

23 “(a) Prescribe by rule a simple application process for the Veterans
24 Dental Program.

25 “(b) Provide assistance, in person or by telephone, to applicants for and
26 enrollees in the program.

27 “(c) **For a veteran**, require and accept as verification of eligibility:

28 “(A) Documentation demonstrating that an applicant’s income is at or
29 below 400 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.

30 “(B) An applicant’s federal DD Form 214 or 215.

1 **“SECTION 3. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropri-**
2 **ation, there is appropriated to the Oregon Health Authority, for the**
3 **biennium beginning July 1, 2025, out of the General Fund, the amount**
4 **of \$5,000,000, for providing oral health care to members of the Oregon**
5 **National Guard on active duty.**

6 **“SECTION 4. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate**
7 **preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is**
8 **declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect on its passage.”.**

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