

Submitter: Thomas Busse

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3027

This is a very dangerous bill that puts undue authority of an unelected commission over the affairs of private institutions.

It is well documented that state licensing of career schools was once used to shut down institutions that trained minority professionals. Within five years at the turn of the century, all medical schools attached to Historically Black universities had to close down under rigged licensure requirements.

There are many faith-based career schools in Oregon, and HERC could establish licensure criteria that go against their faith practices. Licensure is also a deterrent to innovation or the adoption of new practices. Licensure also puts unnecessary administrative burdens on career schools that pass the costs to students. Although there are bad actors in the career school space who make false claims about the usefulness of a degree, this is best addressed through reviews and already published graduation data.

Let's call this bill what it is: a power grab.