

SB 1552: Senate Education Omnibus Bill

1. Sections 1-8: Creates ODE Youth Advisory Council. The new council, made up of youth from around the state, including different demographic groups, will advise the Oregon Department of Education on issues affecting youth. Provides a long-needed student voice to help gauge the success of ODE programs and policies and support local student leadership organizations.
2. Sections 9-12: Collecting Course Grades and Facilitating Direct Admission. Directs ODE to collect course grades for students in middle school and high school. This will allow the State to have a better understanding of both contributors and barriers to student success in addition to the test scores that are currently reported. ODE and the HECC will also collaborate to create an effective policy of Direct Admission for Oregon high school graduates into Oregon colleges and universities.
3. Sections 13-15: Modernizing the QEM and Education Finance. Following up on recommendations from the Joint Committee on Public Education Appropriation, LPRO will direct a study, via local and national experts, of education funding and spending in Oregon. It will result in recommendations to the 2025 Legislature for modernization of the Quality Education Model and the process by which education quality and funding are assessed.
4. Sections 16-18: Requiring Changes to the Oregon Opportunity Grant to Be Approved by the HECC Through Public Rule-Making. Significant changes to the OOG cannot simply be made administratively. They will require a public rule-making process culminating in a vote by the Commission.
5. Sections 19-25: Stabilizes YCEP/JDEP Funding In Statute. Creates a stable school funding methodology for youth in county and state corrections. Puts into statute the methodology that has been used in recent end-of-session budget bills.
6. Section 26: Technical Fix to the Open Educational Resources (Online Textbooks) Program. Clarifies a statutory reference that was previously ambiguous.
7. Section 27: Clarifies Intent for HB 2390 (Naloxone in Schools). The intent of HB 2390 (2023) was to allow schools to provide and administer Naloxone in schools to save a student's life. This correction clarifies that districts are not mandated to have opioid-reversing medication.

8. Sections 28-29: Technical Fix to the Educator Advancement Council Statute. This is language requested by the Educator Advancement Council at the advice of DOJ.
9. Sections 30-31: Directs the HECC to Study Requiring Developmental Education Co-Requisites. Creates a HECC-led process, including college faculty, administrators, and policy experts to examine evidence-based co-curricular models for students who would traditionally be required to follow a sequence of remedial courses and would now be allowed to go directly to college-level courses with the support needed to be successful.
10. Sections 32-34: Funding Community College Applied Baccalaureates. This will allow up to three approved college applied-baccalaureate programs to be funded through the Community College Support Fund for the next two academic years, as a permanent funding model is discussed and determined.
11. Section 35: Corrects Unintended Problem with HB 2611 (PT Faculty Health Care). Clarifies that a faculty member without an assignment during fall term can still access the health care pool if otherwise eligible.
12. Sections 36-38: Forestry Workforce Study. Directs the HECC to undertake a study of workforce needs in the forestry industry, including analysis of existing pathways for education and training available in the state and gaps in those pathways.
13. Section 39: Exempts Faculty Common Course Numbering Subcommittees from Public Meeting Requirements. Clarifies that meetings of faculty subject-area work groups working to develop common course numbers and outcomes for particular courses are advisory to the Transfer Council and are not considered public bodies subject to all the requirements of public meeting law.
14. Section 40: Access to Licensing Pre-Determination. Allows individuals to seek and receive a pre-determination from a licensing board before beginning a career program as to whether or not a past conviction will prevent them from being licensed after completing their program.
15. Section 41: Technical Fix to HB 3198 (Early Literacy). Removes two sections of statute now unnecessary as a result of HB 3198 (2023).
16. Sections 42-43: Miscellaneous Provisions. Includes Effective Date of July 1, 2024.