

A-Engrossed
Senate Bill 342

Ordered by the Senate May 5
Including Senate Amendments dated May 5

Sponsored by Senator SCHRADER, Representative SCOTT

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

[Directs State Board of Higher Education and State Board of Education to jointly develop common course numbering system. Directs state institutions of higher education and community colleges to accept for credit toward degree credits granted by other state institutions and colleges.]

Directs community colleges and state institutions of higher education to cooperate in operating statewide articulation and transfer system to ensure that post-secondary education needs of students are met without unnecessary duplication of courses. Specifies tasks to be performed in continuing to provide and improve effective articulation and transfer framework.

Directs Oregon University System and Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development to report progress on operation of system to Emergency Board and Joint Boards of Education.

Sunsets January 2, 2010.

Declares emergency, effective *[July 1, 2005]* on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to higher education courses; and declaring an emergency.

Whereas enhancing the transition experience for students who transfer between Oregon's community colleges and universities is a public policy matter; and

Whereas high school students who take college-level courses and advanced placement courses for college credit and who participate in early college programs comprise a significant portion of students who accumulate transferable college credits; and

Whereas students can save on the cost of tuition by taking courses at different post-secondary institutions; and

Whereas students have the right to expect the smooth transfer of appropriate college credit courses taken at eligible post-secondary institutions; and

Whereas frequent and skillful advising facilitates the transfer of students between institutions; and

Whereas Oregon community colleges and universities are committed to meeting the needs of all students, including transfer students; now, therefore,

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) Community colleges and state institutions of higher education within the Oregon University System shall cooperate in operating a statewide articulation and transfer system. The system must include the means for articulating lower-division general education credits, general elective credits and curriculum requirements for approved majors in order to allow students to transfer between community colleges and state institutions of higher education without losing credits that otherwise would be applicable toward a baccalaureate

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 degree. The system must ensure that the post-secondary education needs of students state-
2 wide are met without unnecessary duplication of courses.

3 (2) In continuing to provide and improve upon an effective articulation and transfer
4 framework for students in Oregon's post-secondary sectors, community colleges and state
5 institutions of higher education shall:

6 (a) Revise the Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer Degree offered by community colleges;

7 (b) Develop specific degree pathways as deemed appropriate by state institutions of
8 higher education and community colleges;

9 (c) Develop an outcome-based framework for articulation and transfer that is derived
10 from a common understanding of the criteria for general education curricula;

11 (d) Develop a seamless transfer of credits for all level 100 and 200 general education
12 courses;

13 (e) Implement a statewide course applicability system that permits students and advisers
14 to query and view online credit transfer options and conduct online degree auditing;

15 (f) Develop uniform standards for awarding college credit for advanced placement test
16 scores; and

17 (g) Expand early college programs for 11th and 12th graders who earn college credit and
18 intend to pursue a certificate or associate or baccalaureate degree.

19 (3) In addition to the requirements of subsection (2) of this section, community colleges
20 and state institutions of higher education may also implement other measures to create an
21 effective articulation and transfer framework for students.

22 **SECTION 2.** (1) The Oregon University System and the Department of Community Col-
23 leges and Workforce Development shall submit a report of their progress on operating a
24 statewide articulation and transfer system that meets statewide post-secondary education
25 needs as required by section 1 of this 2005 Act to the Emergency Board prior to January 1,
26 2007. The report shall include:

27 (a) A report on the progress of the Oregon Transfer Module as approved by the State
28 Board of Higher Education and the State Board of Education; and

29 (b) Recommendations for statutory changes necessary to facilitate the transfer of stu-
30 dents between post-secondary institutions.

31 (2) The Oregon University System and the Department of Community Colleges and
32 Workforce Development shall report annually to the Joint Boards of Education on their
33 progress on operating a statewide articulation and transfer system that meets statewide
34 post-secondary education needs as required by section 1 of this 2005 Act.

35 **SECTION 3.** Sections 1 and 2 of this 2005 Act are repealed on January 2, 2010.

36 **SECTION 4.** This 2005 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
37 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2005 Act takes effect
38 on its passage.