LC 1837
2015 Regular Session
12/9/14 (HRL/ps)

D R A F T

SUMMARY

Requires tuition for certain courses offered at community college to be waived if person meets specified criteria.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to waiver of tuition for community college courses; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2015 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 341.

SECTION 2. (1) The tuition for courses described in subsection (2) of this section shall be waived for a person who meets the criteria described in subsection (3) of this section.

(2) Tuition shall be waived for a course that is:

(a) Offered at a community college in this state; and

(b) Required for a certificate or associate degree, as determined by rules adopted by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

(3) Tuition shall be waived for courses described in subsection (2) of this section if a person meets the following criteria:

(a) Has been a resident of this state for at least 12 months prior to beginning the courses;

(b) Attained the person's highest level of education in this state prior to:

(A) Receiving a diploma under ORS 329.451;

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.

(B) Receiving a General Educational Development (GED) certificate as provided by ORS 351.768; or

(C) Completing grade 12 in compliance with the requirements of ORS 339.035;

(c) Has accepted all state and federal aid grants available to the person; and

(d) Has not earned more than 90 quarter hours, or the equivalent, at a post-secondary institution of education.

(4) The amount of tuition waived as provided by this section shall be the amount the person owes after subtracting:

(a) $50 to be paid by the person for each course; and

(b) Any amounts received by the person as state and federal aid grants.

(5) Nothing in this section requires a person to be enrolled as a full-time student.

(6) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall adopt any rules necessary for the administration of this section.

SECTION 3. Section 2 of this 2015 Act first applies to courses enrolled in for the 2015-2016 academic year.

SECTION 4. This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect on July 1, 2015.