

A-Engrossed
Senate Bill 1581

Ordered by the Senate March 4
Including Senate Amendments dated March 4

Sponsored by Senator HASS; Representatives BARNHART, BUCKLEY, GALLEGOS, GELSER, GREENLICK, UNGER (at the request of Oregon Student Association) (Pre-session filed.)

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 public universities and community colleges to increase voter registration access and information.

[Prohibits public universities and community colleges from considering student voter registration status when determining resident or nonresident classification for tuition purposes.]

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to voter registration.

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

SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section and section 3 of this 2014 Act, "school of higher education" means:

(a) Any public university listed in ORS 352.002.

(b) Any community college as defined in ORS 341.005.

(2) During an academic term in which a primary or general election as set forth in ORS 254.056 is to be held, each school of higher education shall display a direct link to the Secretary of State's online voter registration tool on the school's website home page.

(3) Each school of higher education shall give the school's official student government or its equivalent an opportunity to provide nonpartisan voter registration services:

(a) During student orientation programs held by the school's administration;

(b) During campus welcome events that occur before classes begin each academic term;
and

(c) During residence life program activities.

(4) In addition to the requirements set forth in subsection (3) of this section, each school of higher education shall provide:

(a) The school's official student government or its equivalent with professional contact information that has been previously compiled by the school for faculty. The student organization may use this contact information for the purpose of seeking faculty approval to provide nonpartisan voter registration classroom presentations; and

(b) Individual students the opportunity to provide voter registration services throughout the academic term in any nonreserved public space on the school's property. This paragraph applies only to students enrolled at the school and does not alter in any way the rights of a person who is not enrolled as a student at the school.

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 **(5) In addition to the requirements set forth in subsections (3) and (4) of this section,**
2 **each school of higher education that has any housing that is owned and operated by the**
3 **school shall:**

4 **(a) Engage with the local county elections office at least six months prior to each pri-**
5 **mary or general election as set forth in ORS 254.056 in order to determine what address in-**
6 **formation students living in on-campus housing must provide in order to receive election**
7 **ballots; and**

8 **(b) Work with the school's official student government or its equivalent to develop an**
9 **internal delivery system policy to help students receive ballots in a timely manner.**

10 **(6) During an academic term in which a primary or general election as set forth in ORS**
11 **254.056 is to be held, each school of higher education may send no more than two reminders**
12 **to each student of the school by electronic mail. The content of these reminders shall be**
13 **limited to reminding students:**

14 **(a) To update their voter registration address by a certain date; or**

15 **(b) Of the date by which a completed ballot must be returned to the county clerk.**

16 **SECTION 2.** **Section 1 of this 2014 Act first applies to the 2015-2016 academic year.**

17 **SECTION 3.** **(1) Section 1 of this 2014 Act becomes operative on July 1, 2015.**

18 **(2) A school of higher education may take any action before the operative date specified**
19 **in subsection (1) of this section that is necessary for the school to exercise, on and after the**
20 **operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section, all of the duties, functions and**
21 **powers conferred on the school by section 1 of this 2014 Act.**

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