

Senate Bill 1581

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 **as introduced**.

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

1 Relating to voter registration.

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

3 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section and section 2 of this 2014 Act, "school of higher**
4 **education" means:**

5 (a) Any public university listed in ORS 352.002.

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

7 (2) During an academic term in which an election as defined in ORS 246.012 is to be held,
8 each school of higher education shall prominently display a direct link to the Secretary of
9 State's online voter registration tool on the school's website home page and on pages on the
10 school's other administratively controlled websites that have high student traffic.

11 (3) Each school of higher education shall give the school's official student government
12 and any officially recognized student group permission and opportunity to provide voter
13 registration services:

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

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

16 (c) During residence life program activities; and

17 (d) Throughout the academic term in any nonreserved public space on the school's
18 property.

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

21 (a) Throughout the entire length of the academic term, provide the school's official stu-
22 dent government and any officially recognized student group permission and opportunity to
23 provide voter registration services in the form of a classroom presentation;

24 (b) Provide any organization or group that qualifies under paragraph (a) of this sub-
25 section with contact information for faculty in order to schedule classroom presentations;
26 and
27

28 (c) Engage with the local county elections office at least six months prior to each election
29 as defined in ORS 246.012 in order to ensure that students living in on-campus housing re-
30 ceive election ballots.

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) During an academic term in which an election as defined in ORS 246.012 is to be held,**
2 **each school of higher education shall send two reminders to each student of the school via**
3 **both electronic mail and social media. The reminders must contain a direct link to the Sec-**
4 **retary of State’s online voter registration tool.**

5 **SECTION 2.** **The act of registering to vote by a student who is attending a school of**
6 **higher education will have no effect on that student’s resident or nonresident classification**
7 **at the school for tuition purposes.**

8 **SECTION 3.** **Sections 1 and 2 of this 2014 Act first apply to the 2015-2016 academic year.**

9 **SECTION 4.** **Sections 1 and 2 of this 2014 Act become operative on July 1, 2015.**

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