CHAPTER .................................................

AN ACT

Relating to standards for teacher education; amending ORS 342.147; and prescribing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 342.147 is amended to read:

342.147. (1) After considering recommendations of the State Board of Education, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission shall establish by rule standards for approval of teacher education institutions and teacher education programs.

(b) Public teacher education institutions shall be approved for programs of more than four years' duration only if teacher education programs that are reasonably attainable in a four-year period are also available in the system of higher education and are designed to culminate in a baccalaureate degree that qualifies its graduates for entry-level teaching licenses.

(2) The commission shall adopt rules that:

(a) Require teacher education programs to demonstrate that students enrolled in the programs receive training to provide instruction that enables pupils to meet or exceed third-grade reading standards and become proficient readers by the end of the third grade, as designated by the State Board of Education. For the purposes of this paragraph:

(A) A teacher education program may make the demonstration through course curriculum, approved textbooks or other program requirements.

(B) A teacher education program that is unable to make the demonstration shall develop a plan to meet the requirement within one year and shall report to the commission on the progress of implementing that plan.

(2) The commission shall adopt rules that:

(a) Require teacher education programs to demonstrate that students enrolled in the programs receive training to provide instruction that enables pupils to meet or exceed third-grade reading standards and become proficient readers by the end of the third grade, as designated by the State Board of Education. For the purposes of this paragraph:

(A) A teacher education program may make the demonstration through course curriculum, approved textbooks or other program requirements.

(B) A teacher education program that is unable to make the demonstration shall develop a plan to meet the requirement within one year and shall report to the commission on the progress of implementing that plan.

(2) The commission shall establish rules that allow teacher education programs leading to graduate degrees to commence prior to a student's completion of baccalaureate degree requirements and that allow the combined use of undergraduate and graduate level course work in achieving program completion.

(3) Whenever any teacher education institution or program is denied approved status or has such status withdrawn, the denial or withdrawal must be treated as a contested case within the meaning of ORS chapter 183.

(4) Nothing in this section is intended to grant any authority to the commission relating to granting degrees or establishing degree requirements that are within the authority of the State Board of Higher Education or any of the public universities listed in ORS 352.002, or that are within the authority of the governing board of any private institution of higher education.
SECTION 2. If House Bill 2412 becomes law, section 1 of this 2015 Act (amending ORS 342.147) is repealed and ORS 342.147, as amended by section 8, chapter ___, Oregon Laws 2015 (Enrolled House Bill 2412), is amended to read:

342.147. (1)(a) The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission shall establish by rule standards for approval of educator preparation providers and educator preparation programs.

(b) Standards for approval of an educator preparation program for early childhood education, elementary education, special education or reading must require that the program provide instruction on dyslexia and that the instruction be consistent with the knowledge and practice standards of an international organization on dyslexia.

(2) The commission shall adopt rules that:

(a) Require educator preparation programs to demonstrate that candidates enrolled in the programs receive training to provide instruction that enables students to meet or exceed third-grade reading standards and become proficient readers by the end of the third grade, as designated by the State Board of Education. For the purposes of this paragraph:

(A) An educator preparation program may make the demonstration through course curriculum, approved textbooks or other program requirements.

(B) An educator preparation program that is unable to make the demonstration shall develop a plan to meet the requirement within one year and shall report to the commission on the progress of implementing that plan.

[2(2)] (b) [The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission shall establish rules that] Allow educator preparation programs leading to graduate degrees to commence prior to the candidate’s completion of baccalaureate degree requirements and [that allow the combined use of] to combine undergraduate and graduate level course work in achieving program completion.

(3) Whenever any educator preparation provider or educator preparation program is denied approved status or has such status withdrawn, the denial or withdrawal must be treated as a contested case under ORS chapter 183.

(4) Nothing in this section is intended to grant to the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission any authority relating to granting degrees or establishing degree requirements that are within the authority of the State Board of Higher Education, the Higher Education Coordinating Commission or any of the public universities listed in ORS 352.002, or that are within the authority of the governing board of any private institution of higher education.

SECTION 3. This 2015 Act takes effect on July 1, 2016.