

House Bill 4021

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Higher Education, Innovation, and Workforce Development)

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**.

Requires State Treasurer to conduct study to assess viability of establishing student loan refinancing program within office of State Treasurer.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to student loans; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The State Treasurer shall conduct a study to assess the viability of es-**
5 **ablishing a student loan refinancing program within the office of the State Treasurer. The**
6 **study must:**

7 (a) **Look for and identify portions of the state investment portfolio that yield investment**
8 **returns that are historically lower than interest rates for current state or federal student**
9 **loans.**

10 (b) **Determine the practicality of using portions of the state investment portfolio identi-**
11 **fied in paragraph (a) of this subsection to purchase a package of high-interest student loans**
12 **from lenders with the intention of offering the loans to borrowers residing in Oregon at a**
13 **reduced interest rate. This determination must consider:**

14 (A) **The potential costs of such a program;**

15 (B) **The number of Oregon residents who would be affected by such a program;**

16 (C) **The amount of long-term savings for Oregon residents as a result of such a program;**
17 **and**

18 (D) **A projected timeline for implementing the program.**

19 (c) **Detail any other viable options for lowering interest rates on student loans for Oregon**
20 **residents that are identified by the State Treasurer.**

21 (2) **The State Treasurer shall submit a report on the study described in subsection (1)**
22 **of this section to the interim legislative committees on higher education no later than Sep-**
23 **tember 1, 2016.**

24 **SECTION 2. This 2016 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
25 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2016 Act takes effect**
26 **on its passage.**

27

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.