

# House Bill 3289

Sponsored by Representative WHISNANT

## 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**.

Establishes the Task Force on Competency-Based Education. Requires task force to evaluate efficacy of expanding competency-based education in post-secondary institutions in this state and of granting post-secondary degrees on basis of competency-based education, identify degree programs or areas of knowledge that are suitable for granting educational credit through competency-based education, identify barriers to implementing or expanding competency-based education programs in post-secondary institutions in this state, analyze and determine how successful competency-based education models have succeeded and recommend specific policy changes and initiatives to implement or expand competency-based education.

Sunset on December 31, 2018.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to competency-based education; and prescribing an effective date.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Competency-Based Education is established.**

5 **(2) The task force consists of 17 members appointed as follows:**

6 **(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint two members from among members of the**  
7 **Senate.**

8 **(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two members from among**  
9 **members of the House of Representatives.**

10 **(c) The Governor shall appoint 13 members as follows:**

11 **(A) The executive director of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission;**

12 **(B) The Director of the Office of Community Colleges and Workforce Development;**

13 **(C) The president of each public university listed in ORS 352.002;**

14 **(D) A representative from a private post-secondary institution in this state;**

15 **(E) A representative from an institution that provides vocational training and grants an**  
16 **associate degree or the equivalent;**

17 **(F) A representative from an organization with experience in developing competency-**  
18 **based curricula; and**

19 **(G) A former student who has obtained a post-secondary degree from a program with a**  
20 **focus on competency-based education.**

21 **(3) A member identified in subsection (2)(c)(A) to (C) of this section may designate, in**  
22 **lieu of participating directly as a member of the task force, a representative for the Gover-**  
23 **nor to appoint as a member of the task force. A representative designated under this sub-**  
24 **section shall report regularly to the member identified in subsection (2) of this section**  
25 **concerning the activities of the task force.**

26 **(4) The task force shall:**

27 **(a) Evaluate the efficacy of expanding competency-based education in post-secondary in-**

**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 institutions in this state and of granting post-secondary degrees on the basis of competency-  
2 based education;

3 (b) Identify degree programs or areas of knowledge that are suitable for granting edu-  
4 cational credit on the basis of competency-based education;

5 (c) Identify issues and barriers, including but not limited to current post-secondary ac-  
6 creditation standards, that present challenges to implementing or expanding competency-  
7 based education programs in post-secondary institutions in this state;

8 (d) Analyze and determine how successful competency-based education models have suc-  
9 ceeded; and

10 (e) Recommend specific policy changes and initiatives that post-secondary institutions in  
11 this state can take to implement or expand competency-based education.

12 (5) The task force may conduct studies, perform research, consult experts, hear testi-  
13 mony and otherwise take any action that is necessary to carry out the purposes set forth in  
14 subsection (4) of this section.

15 (6) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction  
16 of business.

17 (7) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members  
18 of the task force.

19 (8) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

20 (9) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-  
21 ment to become immediately effective.

22 (10) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson  
23 or of a majority of the members of the task force.

24 (11) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

25 (12) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and  
26 may include recommendations for legislation, to an interim committee of the Legislative  
27 Assembly related to higher education no later than September 15, 2018.

28 (13) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall provide staff support to the  
29 task force.

30 (14) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not  
31 entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers on the task  
32 force.

33 (15) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist  
34 the task force in the performance of the task force's duties and, to the extent permitted by  
35 laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task  
36 force consider necessary to perform their duties.

37 **SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this 2017 Act is repealed on December 31, 2018.

38 **SECTION 3.** This 2017 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2017  
39 regular session of the Seventy-ninth Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.