

CHAPTER 50

AN ACT

SB 1524

Relating to community college costs; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall examine the viability of a program that allows a student who graduated from a high school in this state or who completed grade 12 in compliance with the requirements of ORS 339.035 to attend a community college in this state without paying tuition and fees at the community college for a specified period. When conducting the examination, the commission shall identify and consider:

(a) The anticipated number of students who will participate in the program;

(b) The anticipated annual cost of the program and federal, state and other sources of moneys that could be used to pay the costs of the program;

(c) Current capacity available at community colleges to enroll additional students;

(d) Potential eligibility criteria for students participating in the program; and

(e) The possibility of requiring students to first use financial aid available to the students, including federal moneys provided to low-income students for the purpose of paying for post-secondary education.

(2) If the commission determines that the program described in subsection (1) of this section is viable, the commission shall propose criteria for the program.

(3) The commission shall submit a report that summarizes the findings described in this section to the interim legislative committees on education no later than September 30, 2014. The report may include recommendations for legislation if the commission determines that the program described in subsection (1) of this section is viable.

SECTION 2. This 2014 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2014 Act takes effect on its passage.

Approved by the Governor March 11, 2014

Filed in the office of Secretary of State March 12, 2014

Effective date March 11, 2014