

CHAPTER 670

AN ACT

SB 473

Relating to identifying information at higher education institutions.

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

SECTION 1. (1) Each public university listed in ORS 352.002 shall allow all students, faculty and staff to identify the person's sexual orientation on any forms used to collect demographic data that includes gender, race or ethnicity.

(2) Each public university listed in ORS 352.002 shall make the demographic data collected under subsection (1) of this section available to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission in the format determined by the commission under subsection (3) of this section.

(3) The commission shall:

(a) By rule establish a common format and time frame for the collection and reporting of the demographic data specified in subsection (1) of this section;

(b) Evaluate the degree to which public universities are complying with the requirements set forth in subsections (1) and (2) of this section; and

(c) During each regular session of the Legislative Assembly, submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245 to the committees related to higher education that:

(A) Sets forth the progress public universities have made toward implementing the requirements set forth in subsections (1) and (2) of this section; and

(B) Summarizes the demographic data collected by the commission under this section.

SECTION 2. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, to the extent allowed by federal law, each public university listed in ORS 352.002:

(a) Shall permit enrolled students to use a preferred first name other than the student's legal first name on course and grade rosters, directory listings, advisor lists, identification cards and diplomas; and

(b) May permit enrolled students to use a preferred first name other than the student's legal first name on campus records not listed in paragraph (a) of this subsection.

(2) Public universities listed in ORS 352.002 must use the legal first name of enrolled students on official transcripts and enrollment verification documents.

SECTION 3. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, sections 1 and 2 of this 2015 Act apply to all forms or campus re-

cords that are created or updated for the 2016-2017 academic year.

(2)(a) A public university is not required to update existing forms in order to comply with the requirements of section 1 of this 2015 Act.

(b) A public university must permit an enrolled student to update the student's campus records in order to implement the preferred first name policy set forth in section 2 of this 2015 Act.

SECTION 4. (1) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall work with representatives from community colleges to:

(a) Determine the best method for community colleges to administer the collection of sexual orientation identification data that is voluntarily provided by students, faculty and staff;

(b) Determine the best method for community colleges to implement policies permitting enrolled students to use preferred names on certain college documents; and

(c) Identify potential barriers to carrying out the activities described in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection, including legal issues, cost issues and data system limitations.

(2) The commission shall report its conclusions on the most cost effective and least burdensome methods of carrying out the activities described in subsection (1)(a) and (b) of this section to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to higher education no later than May 31, 2016.

SECTION 5. Section 4 of this 2015 Act is repealed on July 1, 2016.

SECTION 6. (1) The requirements set forth in sections 1 to 3 of this 2015 Act first apply to the 2016-2017 academic year.

(2) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission and public universities listed in ORS 352.002 may take any action before the 2016-2017 academic year that is necessary to enable the commission and universities to exercise, during and after the 2016-2017 academic year, all of the duties, functions and powers conferred on the commission and universities by sections 1 to 3 of this 2015 Act.

SECTION 7. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, out of the General Fund, the sum of \$53,707 for the purpose of performing the obligations assigned to the commission under sections 1 and 4 of this 2015 Act.

Approved by the Governor July 6, 2015
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