

**CHAPTER 32**

AN ACT

HB 4021

Relating to student loans; and declaring an emergency.

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

**SECTION 1.** (1) The State Treasurer and the Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall conduct a study to explore approaches for lowering interest rates on student loans for students in Oregon. The study must:

(a) Explore approaches for lowering interest rates on student loans for Oregon residents;

(b) Include an identification of funding approaches, including investments and bonds, that could be used to refinance student loans;

(c) Identify funding approaches that have historically lower interest rates than current federal or private student loans; and

(d) Outline the research plan that would be needed to implement a student loan refinancing program in Oregon, including the data that is currently available to estimate potential costs of such a program and additional data that would be needed to determine the viability of such a program.

(2) The State Treasurer and the Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall submit a report on the study to the interim legislative committees on higher education no later than December 1, 2016.

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

Approved by the Governor March 14, 2016  
Filed in the office of Secretary of State March 14, 2016  
Effective date March 14, 2016