

CHAPTER 6

AN ACT

HB 4153

Relating to Eastern Oregon University.

Whereas Eastern Oregon University was founded in 1929 to serve as a resource for rural communities; and

Whereas Eastern Oregon University represents rural Oregon as part of its mission, core values and principle of service to this state; and

Whereas Eastern Oregon University was the first university in this state to develop distance education programs for place bound students and continues to serve those students throughout this state and beyond; and

Whereas Eastern Oregon University serves the highest percentage of students eligible to receive the Federal Pell Grant in this state; and

Whereas Eastern Oregon University has 11 on-line and distance education locations in partnership with communities and community colleges throughout the rural sectors of this state; and

Whereas Eastern Oregon University hosts thousands of elementary and secondary school students each year, providing them an opportunity to experience university life through programs such as Eastern Promise, the Math Olympiad, Future Business Leaders of America, regional competitions, sports camps and musical performances; and

Whereas Eastern Oregon University is actively engaged with area communities through encouraging community members at every stage of life to partic-

ipate and perform in vocal and instrumental music groups; and

Whereas Eastern Oregon University has a significant effect on the percentage of university degree holders, and thereby the professional workforce, in a small rural community; and

Whereas Eastern Oregon University acts as a focal point for citizens of all age groups in Eastern Oregon by establishing the importance of education in a rural community and by incorporating the area into the advanced global economy; and

Whereas Eastern Oregon University is recognized nationally for being friendly to the military, and a significant number of veterans reside in, and serve as a large part of the economies of, the rural communities served by the university; and

Whereas Eastern Oregon University presents a community and campus that is not overwhelmingly larger than the majority of rural communities in the region, thereby providing a comfortable transition and making university success more likely for many rural students; and

Whereas Eastern Oregon University is recognized nationally for its online and distance education programs; now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. Eastern Oregon University is designated and shall be known as Oregon's Rural University.

Approved by the Governor March 6, 2018

Filed in the office of Secretary of State March 6, 2018

Effective date January 1, 2019