

House Bill 4137

Sponsored by Representative EVANS (Pre-session filed.)

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**.

Authorizes all public universities in Oregon to offer doctoral degrees, subject to approval by Higher Education Coordinating Commission. Limits certain public universities to five doctoral programs until 2039.

Prohibits Higher Education Coordinating Commission or any other state agency from using public moneys to award scholarships, grants or other types of student financial aid to post-secondary institutions of education that offer primarily online coursework and have been found to have engaged in fraudulent or predatory practices against students or prospective students.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to higher education; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 352.011.

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

4 **SECTION 1. Subject to approval by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission under**
5 **ORS 350.075 (3)(g) or 352.089 (2), each public university listed in ORS 352.002 may offer doc-**
6 **toral degrees.**

7 **SECTION 2. Notwithstanding section 1 of this 2020 Act, the Oregon Institute of Tech-**
8 **nology, Eastern Oregon University, Southern Oregon University and Western Oregon Uni-**
9 **versity may not offer more than five doctoral programs each.**

10 **SECTION 3. Section 2 of this 2020 Act is repealed on January 1, 2039.**

11 **SECTION 4. ORS 352.011 is amended to read:**

12 352.011. Western Oregon University, Southern Oregon University and Eastern Oregon Univer-
13 sity are established as comprehensive universities that offer a full range of baccalaureate programs
14 and, **subject to section 1 of this 2020 Act**, graduate programs [*through the master's degree*].

15 **SECTION 5. (1) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission or any other state**
16 **agency may not use public moneys to award a scholarship, grant or other type of student**
17 **financial aid to a post-secondary institution of education if the post-secondary institution of**
18 **education:**

19 (a) **Offers coursework primarily online; and**

20 (b) **Has been found to have engaged in fraudulent or predatory practices against a stu-**
21 **dent or prospective student, as determined by:**

22 (A) **The Higher Education Coordinating Commission;**

23 (B) **A court of this state; or**

24 (C) **A public body as defined by ORS 174.109.**

25 (2) **As used in this section, "offers coursework primarily online" and "fraudulent or**
26 **predatory practices" shall be defined by rule by the Higher Education Coordinating Com-**
27 **mission.**

28

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.