



NEWSLETTER
February 3, 2012

2012 Legislative Session

The 2012 legislative session convened on February 1, 2012. Information about legislators, OCCA-tracked bills, hearings and more can be found on our [web site](#).

2012 Legislative Session Calendar

- February 6: 5:00 PM – Deadline for bills to be posted on an agenda in their chamber of origin (Except: Rules, Revenue, Ways and Means Committees)
- February 8: Revenue forecast
- February 14: Last day for policy committees to hold work sessions on bills in their chamber of origin. (Except: Rules, Revenue, Ways and Means Committees)
- February 21: 5:00 PM – Deadline for bills to be posted on an agenda in the second chamber (Except: Rules, Revenue, Ways and Means Committees.)
- February 23: Last day for work sessions in all committees (Except: Rules, Revenue, Ways and Means Committees)
- February 29: Target Sine Die (End of Session)

Education Committee Meeting Schedules:

House Education Committee – Tuesday & Thursday, 8:00 am, Hearing Room E

Committee Membership

Rep. Sara Gelser, Co-Chair
Rep. Matt Wingard, Co-Chair
Rep. Jason Conger, Co-Vice Chair
Rep. Lew Frederick, Co-Vice Chair
Rep. Michael Dembrow
Rep. John E. Huffman
Rep. Betty Komp

National Education News

The Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) reports that President Obama has released a [plan](#) detailing his priorities, which include funding devoted to community colleges to forge business partnership to train and place two million skilled workers.

In keeping with the President's proposal, the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions held a hearing on college affordability yesterday. Read testimony [here](#).

OEIB Meeting

The next Oregon Education Investment Board meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 7, at the Department of State Lands Land Board Conference Room, 775 Summer St. NE in Salem from 1pm - 5 pm. The meeting will be streamed [live](#). The agenda includes:

- Report on Community Forums
 - Review of February legislation
 - Presentation from Western Governors University
 - Presentation on state's ten year Budgeting Plan
 - Update on 2012 Work Plan: P-20 System and 40-40-20 Plan
 - Update on Chief Education Officer recruitment
 - Update on NCLB Waiver
 - Presentation on State Ethics Laws
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Rep. Julie Parrish

House Higher Education Committee – Tuesday & Thursday, 3:00 pm, Hearing

Room E

Committee Membership

Rep. Michael Dembrow, Co-Chair

Rep. Mark Johnson, Co-Chair

Rep. Mitch Greenlick, Co-Vice Chair

Rep. Sherrie Sprenger, Co-Vice Chair

Rep. Chris Harker

Rep. Dave Hunt

Rep. Shawn Lindsay

Rep. Patrick Sheehan

Senate Education and Workforce Development Committee – Monday &

Wednesday, 1:00 pm, Hearing Room B

Committee Membership

Mark Hass, Chair

Frank Morse, Vice-Chair

Lee Beyer

Larry George

Elizabeth Steiner Hayward

Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education – Monday & Wednesday, 1:00

pm, Hearing Room F

Committee Membership

Rep. Betty Komp, Co-Chair

Rep. Sherrie Sprenger, Co-Chair

Rep. Michael Dembrow, Co-Vice Chair

Rep. Bill Garrard, Co-Vice Chair

Sen. Fred Girod

Sen. Rod Monroe

Sen. Chip Shields

Legislative Bill Updates

[HB 4058](#) – Textbook Affordability

The House Higher Education Committee received testimony at a public hearing yesterday related to Rep. Dembrow's textbook affordability bill, HB 4058. The bill was amended to remove language relating to how identified textbook cost saving strategies will be implemented. The bill would task the Higher Education Coordinating Commission with convening a group of stakeholders to identify textbook cost-savings strategies such as bulk purchasing, statewide book

Scheduled Hearings Next Week

February 6, 1 PM, Hearing Room B Education and Workforce Development Committee

[SB 1540](#) Prohibits education service district board from declaring office of director vacant if director resides in school district that withdraws from education service district unless director's term expires or director's office is otherwise declared vacant.

February 7, 3 PM, Hearing Room E Higher Education Committee

[HB 4057](#) Requires State Board of Education and State Board of Higher Education to establish baselines and conduct annual reviews of each public institution of higher education with respect to employee numbers in different employee groups, and ratio of employees in group to students enrolled.

[HB 4058](#) Directs Joint Boards of Education and Higher Education Coordinating Commission to prepare report on strategies for reducing higher education textbook costs.

[HB 4059](#) Directs Higher Education Coordinating Commission to carry out goals relating to awarding academic credit for prior learning by students.

[HB 4061](#) Establishes Task Force on Higher Education Governance and Coordination.

February 8, 1 PM Hearing Room B Education and Workforce Development Committee

[SB 1581](#) Identifies positions that will be under direction and control of Chief Education Officer for matters related to design and organization of state's education system.

[SJR 201](#) Proposes amendment to Oregon Constitution creating State Board of Education.

[SB 1538](#) Authorizes Oregon

exchanges, and using open source textbooks. Because the amendments addressed concerns that OCCA previously had about this bill, OCCA staff testified in support of the bill. The committee expects to take action on the bill next week after receiving an updated fiscal statement.

HB 4016 – Mandatory Child Abuse Reporting

The House Education Committee held a two-hour public hearing yesterday on HB 4016. This bill would add community college and university employees as mandatory child abuse reporters, as well as volunteers of public and private organizations that have control and supervision of children like AYSO soccer coaches and church youth group volunteer leaders. The testimony focused mostly on concerns raised by extending this requirement to volunteers of private organizations. The Department of Human Services testified about the training resources available and the process they use when reports are filed. Several attorneys provided perspective on the liability concerns that were raised. The Oregon School Boards Association and Confederation of Oregon School Administrators testified in support of the bill as amended. OCCA did not testify at the hearing but provided a **letter of support** to Rep. Gelser after clarifying several issues that were raised by the OCCA Board. The committee did not take action on the bill and carried it over to its meeting next Tuesday.

HB 4028 - Community College Capital Construction Package

Community colleges presented the **capital construction package** before the Transportation and Economic Development Committee on February 2. Making the pitch were presidents Cheryl Roberts (Chemeketa), Gerald Hamilton (Klamath), and Joanne Truesdell (Clackamas) with long-time business partner and Clackamas Community College supporter Lowell Miles (Owner, Miles Fiberglass and Composites), as well as other supporters from the community college realm. The committee was receptive to the package and amendments are being drafted to include the community college projects as presented. The bill is expected to move out of committee next week.

SB 1538 and SB 1581 - Achievement Compacts

The Senate Education Committee held an informational hearing on SB 1531 and SB 1581 on February 1. Governor Kitzhaber appeared before the committee to explain his education plan, and to talk about achievement compacts and the statutory authority for the Chief Education Officer. The Senate Education Committee will again consider these bills on Wednesday, February 8, at 1:00 pm in hearing room B. OCCA is currently working on amendments to address community college concerns.

Education Investment Board to approve or reject Oregon University System funding requests and performance compacts.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ACCT Legislative Summit
February 12-15, 2012
Washington, DC

Oregon Presidents Council
February 23-24, 2012
Salem, Oregon

State Board of Education
March 8-9, 2012
Salem, Oregon

Oregon Presidents Council
March 22-23, 2012
Coos Bay, Oregon

OCCA Board
March 23, 2012
Coos Bay, Oregon

Visit our web site:
<http://www.occa17.com>

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