

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

EXCERPT SENATE BILL 270, SECTION 166

The Special Committee on University Governance and Operations is established, consisting of 10 members: Senators Peter Courtney, Richard Devlin, Fred Girod, and Bill Hansell; Representatives Peter Buckley, Michael Dembrow, Greg Smith, and Gail Whitsett; and two members of the Oregon Education Investment Board appointed by the Governor.

The special committee shall review, discuss and analyze: (a) Issues of administration within the state post-secondary education system with an emphasis on four-year public universities; and (b) Coordination of operations, academic programs, shared services and other elements of that system, after considering the recommendations of the Work Group on University Shared Services established under section 166a of this 2013 Act.

The special committee may recommend legislation on the future relationship between Oregon's institutions of post-secondary education.

The special committee shall evaluate options related to institutional governance as Oregon's public universities transition to new governing boards, with a focus on how best to coordinate academic services among the universities in order to increase student access, affordability and success in pursuit of the mission described in ORS 351.009. Options may include the role of a chancellor or an academic leader, the composition of the interim State Board of Higher Education between July 1, 2014, and June 30, 2015, or the composition and authorities of a consortium board for universities that do not request institutional governing boards.

With respect to university governance, any legislation recommended by the special committee shall: (a) Take into consideration the unique mission associated with each of Oregon's seven public universities and identify how these missions can best be accomplished and sustained over the next 10 years; and (b) Ensure that the public missions of Oregon's public universities, including access and affordability for residents of this state, are maintained and enhanced.

With respect to university operations, any legislation recommended by the special committee shall define the operating arrangements between the institutions in order to ensure: (a) That all post-secondary institutions, including public universities listed in ORS 352.002 and Oregon's 17 community colleges, are able to achieve the goals and mission described in ORS 351.006 and 351.009; and (b) The achievement of cost efficiencies, economies of scale, cost effectiveness, accountability, administrative streamlining and the ability to provide the best quality education possible for the amount of state moneys spent.

Any shared services legislation recommended by the special committee must further consider the recommended shared services model provided by the Work Group on University Shared

Services under section 166a (11) of this 2013 Act. The shared services subject to review by the special committee shall include, but are not limited to, risk management, cash management, asset management, treasury services, payroll, employee benefits, accounting, auditing, purchasing and contracting, information technology and any other administrative function that might benefit from the sharing or pooling of public university resources.

The special committee shall convene and begin work no later than September 15, 2013.

The special committee shall submit interim recommendations to the Governor and Legislative Assembly no later than January 15, 2014, for consideration during the 2014 regular legislative session.

The special committee shall continue to meet and submit final recommendations to the Governor and Legislative Assembly, if necessary, no later than November 15, 2014, for consideration during the 2015 regular legislative session.

The Legislative Administration Committee shall provide staff support to the special committee.

All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, and public universities listed in ORS 352.002 are directed to assist the special committee in the performance of its duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish such information and advice as the members of the committee consider necessary to perform their duties.