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LB 663

operate Curtis would have to be a state appropriation.

SENATOR LAMB: Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Lamb. Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Madam Chair, members of the Legislature, if I could ask Senator Withem a question. I think in...I think in your responses to questions from Senator Robinson you kept talking about if the programs that we're going to expand, that the coordinating commission would have quite a bit of power in dealing with those. What about the elimination of programs? Does the coordinating commission have power to eliminate programs? And I guess I heard from the State of Oregon is that in Oregon is funded by property tax in Oregon State and Oregon... University of Oregon they simply, one of the schools they simply cut out the journalism department. Is that true that there would be the power to eliminate programs where there is duplication or to live within budgetary restraints?

SENATOR WITHEM: Certainly is, Senator Hartnett. Section 17 of the bill, pages 21 through 25 spell out the program review process and there is envisioned several sections deal with existing programs, that they shall be reviewed by the commission pursuant to a program review process. Existing programs which do not meet criteria established by the commission pursuant to subsection (7) of this section shall be targeted for in-depth review. Existing programs disapproved for continuance by the commission shall be terminated by a public institution when all students in the program on the date of the decision of the commission to disapprove continuance of program have had an opportunity to complete the program. So, yes, very definitely we envision review of existing programs.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Thank you, Senator Withem.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Madam President and members, Senator Withem, I'd like to ask you just a couple questions and my concern is in the transition team or the transition board that would be appointed. Could you briefly go over that for me and then I'll maybe lead in with some questions after that.