

Hello to the Education Committee,

My name is Neha Singh and I am a junior studying pre-med Biology at Portland State University.

I am writing today to ask you to vote yes on HB 2524, which would create mandatory fee transparency at all public colleges.

School is very expensive, and since 1999, mandatory fees have risen 30% more than tuition in the United States. This term in addition to tuition, textbooks and living expenses, I am having to pay over \$1000 in fees. We do not find out about how much we will be charged until very close to our payment date. Personally, I do not know where the fees go. While there is a breakdown of where certain fees go, it's unclear as to how that money is being allocated and used. If there is money going to SHAC services, there needs to be better funding to provide students with accessible therapy services.

I believe there is a massive lack in transparency and most students I talk with have no idea how our money is used with the massive fees we pay. The cost of attendance has greatly impacted myself and my family. As someone preparing for medical school, there's a great deal of pressure on me to be able to get through undergrad while having remaining money leftover for med school applications.

HB 2542 is about transparency and accountability at our colleges, so that students can have the information they need to manage their finances better and succeed in school.

Thank you for your time. Please vote yes on this bill.

Sincerely,

Neha Singh