



Dear House Committee on Education,

Thank you for addressing cost transparency for students in HB 2919. Linn-Benton Community College's Academic Affairs Council approved a pilot of a new system in January 2021 that led to a dramatic increase in our on-time adoption information in spring 2021. We were able to implement this new system through coordination between our Textbook Affordability Steering Committee, the Campus Store, College administrators, and, importantly, the willing cooperation of department chairs and faculty, including part-time faculty representatives.

We believe LBCC came together to support this new process because everyone understood the many reasons on-time adoptions are important. In the procedures we are piloting, the purpose statement is prominently displayed at the top:

- To ensure course materials for the following term are secured in a timely manner
- To provide transparency to students and support affordability initiatives
- To comply with the letter and spirit of the HEOA Textbook Provision
- To provide college staff with the information they need to add the no-cost/low-cost designations to the course schedule in order to comply with HB 2871 (sec. 4)
- To further textbook affordability by ensuring the librarians have time to notify faculty of institutional access to course materials like ebooks
- To support the Center for Accessibility Resources in providing accommodations
- To provide the Campus Store with time to negotiate better prices for materials and manage their inventory

LBCC was able to successfully pass this pilot because the College supports textbook affordability work and is committed to preserving our non-profit Campus Store. Campus Store employees are responsible for soliciting and making available course materials information, but they cannot force faculty to provide the information. Because LBCC faculty have long standing relationships with the Campus Store, the Library, the Dean of Academic Progression, and others championing this initiative, they supported it. We do not think the initiative would have moved forward without this groundwork of trust. Academic freedom can also conflict with on-time adoptions, since part-time faculty may be hired after registration, and, depending on the institution's policies, may have the right to select their own course materials.

We are grateful to Chemeketa Community College's bookstore for creating a model we were able to modify and adopt, and we're happy to share our process with other institutions. At the same time, we acknowledge that local conditions and policies will impact other institutions' ability to achieve similar results.

Sincerely,

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