



DATE: February 13, 2013

TO: Senate Education and Workforce Development, Chair Hass and Members

FROM: Oregon Education Association

RE: Support House Bill 2787 [Tuition Equity]

On behalf of the Oregon Education Association, we urge your support for House Bill 2787. As a professional organization representing educators serving Oregon students from kindergarten to higher education, we are committed to equity and access to a high-quality education for all Oregonians. HB 2787 provides students who are undocumented but have grown up in Oregon and attended Oregon public schools an affordable pathway to a post-secondary education.

We believe a high-quality post-secondary education in Oregon must be available to and affordable for all. Minors have little say over their residency or documentation status. Yet, these students have lived here, been educated in our schools and made contributions to our communities. These students ought to have the chance to qualify for in-state tuition and the choice to further their education without being priced out of the opportunity to attend college.

HB 2787 would have a beneficial impact on our economy by promoting a skilled workforce. By making it possible for more Oregonians to attend college in-state, HB 2787 will help ensure that Oregon students contribute their skills to helping grow the economy here at home.

We urge your support for equity and opportunity for all Oregonians by pass House Bill 2787.