

Statement on Pay it Forward, Pay it Back:

Relief of Student Debt in Higher Education in Oregon, HB 2838

PSU AAUP Executive Council

February 2013

WHEREAS, college students in the U.S. now bear more educational debt than adults' credit card or auto debt.

WHEREAS, young people in the U.S. are in an impossible bind regarding their futures in a global and competitive job market, since they can neither afford to go to college nor afford *not* to go

WHEREAS, for more than a decade now, Portland State University students have shouldered an increasing proportion of their tuition in the face of a persistent decline in state funding for public education.

WHEREAS, as faculty members, we must call to account a system that asks students to pay more for their education, while we, faced with growing class sizes and shrinking teaching resources, are constrained to keep up with student needs.

WHEREAS, HB 2838 represents a honest, forward-thinking, and practical plan for insuring that the state of Oregon nourishes its future citizens and invests in the infrastructure of its society and economy.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

That PSU-AAUP's Executive Council endorses HB 2838; PSU-AAUP will actively advocate for the passage of this bill during the 2013 session.