

CHRIS GORSEK
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 49



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Testimony in Support of HB 3079
Senate Committee on Education and Workforce Development
May 28, 2013

Chair Hass and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of House Bill 3079, which I am proud to co-sponsor.

In addition to being a state representative, I am also an instructor at Mt. Hood Community College and I want to ensure that my students have the information they need if they're considering a for-profit college.

Last year, I found out that one of my students had attended a for-profit college and when she was nearing the completion of her four-year degree, she inquired about transferring to a public university to continue her education. Unfortunately, she found out that she had taken classes from a school that was not accredited by an institution recognized by the public university and so they would not accept her credits.

She had paid a considerable amount of money to attend this school, but still ended up having to duplicate her courses at another college. She began doing this at Mt. Hood, because it was cheaper than a public four-year institution, but she still had to incur new debt to get to the masters level program she had begun pursuing in the first place.

The fact that there appear to be for-profit colleges operating here in Oregon that are not accredited with local schools is something our students need to know. This bill is first and foremost about protecting our students by providing them the information they need to make informed decisions and that is why I support HB 3079.

Thank you for taking the time to consider HB 3079, I hope it will have your support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Gorsek", written in a cursive style.

Chris Gorsek
State Representative
House District 49