

NO TO HB 2787

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(a) In general
Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an alien who is not lawfully present in the United States shall not be eligible on the basis of residence within a State (or a political subdivision) for any postsecondary education benefit unless a citizen or national of the United States is eligible for such a benefit (in no less an amount, duration, and scope) without regard to whether the citizen or national is such a resident.

(b) Effective date

This section shall apply to benefits provided on or after July 1, 1998.

Our Federal law is clear! Yet our Oregon legislature is entertaining passing a law that goes against our Federal laws. HB 2787 gives special financial privileges' to people that are illegally in this country, and passes the tax burden to the Oregonian taxpayer. This bill will allow illegal aliens In-state tuition while making American citizens from other States pay out of state tuition. There also is limited enrollment for Oregon students, and this bill would put Oregon citizens in direct competition for enrollment against those who are here illegally.

This is just a few of the many reasons as to why this is a bad bill, and the wrong thing to do to the Oregonians. As an Oregon constituent we are so tired of our representatives who work tirelessly to make laws, yet refuse to follow our laws, and then in turn allow financial incentives to those who break our laws, and are illegally here. Yet, it seems that special privileges and incentives' are for only certain people that have broken our laws.

The estimated cost of illegal aliens to Oregon tax payers has reached \$1 BILLION dollars. To break it down that is \$111.4 MILLION on health care for illegal aliens. \$140 MILLION on criminal justice activities for illegal aliens. \$12.8 MILLION on welfare for illegal aliens. \$79.2 MILLION for additional state/local operating cost. And then, \$734 MILLION to educate the children of illegal aliens, and yet, that doesn't seem to be enough, and our representatives' here are pushing for In-State tuition.

We have high unemployment throughout Oregon. Our social services along with other services are broke. Our schools are in dire need for money, cutting teachers, cutting courses, closing schools. When will our representatives' do what is right for the legal citizens of Oregon? Instead we are looking at paying another \$1 BILLION dollars, all while our leaders who say they represent legal Oregonians want to offer special driver's licenses and in-state tuition to people illegally here.

In order to give special privileges to people that are here illegally you in turn take away from those who are American citizens, how can you call it the "right thing to do" while doing the wrong thing to the very people who are your legal constituents'? This bill is wrong!

Daryl & Brenda Hallgrimson