

Thursday, March 7, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

When I leave Wellesley College in four years, I am nearly guaranteed to leave with debt and uncertainty that I will find a job to pay it off. My middle-class family has often needed aid to pay for higher education: e.g., if not for the assistance of Pell grants, my mother could not have attended Marylhurst University. She now works at a primary school where she helps kids grow, kids who may need that assistance, or more, in 10 years' time.

In her own words: "Intelligence does not fall into an income bracket."

Indeed, all students who show intellect and promise need the chance to excel without worrying about the cost. If the Oregon Student Opportunity Fund is implemented, the benefits will far outweigh the costs: our state's best and brightest, despite any financial struggle, will be prepared for jobs in growing, innovative industries. The benefits to these students will be multiplied by the good they each are bound to do for us all.

Please vote yes on SB 11, and guarantee my fellow students, and the whole state of Oregon, a more prosperous future.

Thank you very much for your time.



Elise Brown
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