



OREGON BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

6975 SW Sandburg Street, Suite 250 Tigard, Oregon 97223
Ph: 503-641-0990 Fax: 503-641-0959 oba@oba-online.org www.oba-online.org

Chair Hass and Members of the Senate Education and Workforce Development Committee,

Improving access to post-secondary education is a key pillar in OBA's strategic plan. OBA supports moving Oregon toward the 40-40-20 goal through pursuit of a fundamental redesign of the education system. In order to achieve this, funding models must be redesigned to encourage innovation and improved outcomes, including an overhaul of funding for post-secondary education to ensure degree attainment consistent with our 40-40-20 goals.

The Oregon Business Association supports Tuition Equity because it is simply the right thing to do. Beyond that, it makes good business sense. Oregon is missing the chance to capitalize on the K-12 investment it has made in Oregon students. Oregon has relied on an import strategy for educated citizens to meet workforce demands, while at the same time keeping the door to a post-secondary education closed to some of its own students.

Tuition Equity will ensure Oregon is on a strong economic footing with an educated workforce that can draw employers to the region. Tuition Equity is an important part of reaching the 40/40/20 goal. Without tuition equity, many Oregon students will never be able to get above a high school education, and will not have access to an associate or bachelor degree and the increased earning potential of both. 40/40/20 is about addressing Oregon's workforce needs going into the coming decades. This goal is as much about Oregon's economic success as it is about Oregon's educational success, and we need Tuition Equity to help us get there.

Joel Fischer 喬飛水 <*(((><

Senior Policy Analyst

Oregon Business Association

503-706-4652

www.oba-online.org

6975 SW Sandburg St., Suite 250

Tigard, Oregon 97223