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TO: Representative Chris Harker, Chair, House Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee
FROM: Oregon Student Association
RE: Child Care for Community College Students

February 6, 2014

Chair Harker,

With student debt at an all-time high and tuition prices consistently rising beyond control we are eager to explore any possible avenues which increases the likelihood that a student will graduate from an Oregon Public University or Community College. For a number of students affordable and adequate child care is an astronomical barrier to accessing and completing a higher education. Child care costs in the state of Oregon range from \$4,000 upwards of \$10,000 per year per child.

Imagine spending just as much on child care a year as you would on tuition without receiving a degree in return. Access to child care is a growing systemic issue within our higher education institutions and a conversation this session needs to be a priority.

For these reasons and more we hope that you will find time in the busy short legislative session for an informational hearing on House Bill 4084.

If you have any further questions please don't hesitate to contact us.

All the best,

The Oregon Student Association

Contact:

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