



March 10, 2015

Dear Chair Roblan and Members of the Committee:

The University of Oregon supports full funding for Oregon State University's statewide programs in Senate Bill 657. The agricultural experiment station, extension service and forest research laboratory programs are a central part of OSU's mandate as the state's land-grant institution.

These programs also provide the basis for collaboration among institutions. One timely example is a new collaboration between OSU and UO: the National Center for Advanced Wood Manufacturing and Design. Launched in 2014, the Center will leverage public-private partnerships to bring together innovative mass timber building materials (like cross-laminate timber), advanced manufacturing technology design innovations, and workforce development. It will combine the forestry expertise of OSU with the design acumen of the UO's School of Allied Arts and Architecture to increase the number of jobs associated with every board foot of lumber we harvest from our forests.

Oregonians are accustomed to hearing about how our universities compete, on the field, in recruiting students, and in offering programs. What is less well known is that our leadership and faculty are constantly looking for areas of collaboration to increase our impact on the state. The UO/OSU Center is one example of this culture of collaboration, and we ask that you invest in it by supporting OSU's vital statewide programs.

Best regards,

Hans Bernard
Associate Vice President of State and Community Affairs