



**Portland
Community
College**

Office of the President
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An Affirmative Action, Equal Employment
Opportunity Institution

To: Chair Arnie Roblan
Vice-Chair Tim Knopp
Senator Herman Baertschiger, Jr.
Senator Lee Beyer
Senator Mark Hass
Senator Jeff Kruse

From: Dr. Jeremy Brown, President Portland Community College

Date: 27 March 2015

Re: In Support of Senate Bill 932

Members of the Senate Committee on Education, I respectfully ask for your support of Senate Bill 932.

Portland Community College (PCC) is proud to serve a diverse student population with over 100 degrees and certificates offered. Financial limitations force many of our students to attend PCC part-time or to disrupt their studies, thus creating significant barriers for students attempting to complete their studies within five years, as required by House Bill 2787.

An additional issue faces students who qualify for in-state tuition through House Bill 2787. At the time of transfer from PCC to a public four-year Oregon university, students are denied in-state tuition rates if it has been more than 3 years since their high school graduation even though they have been continuously enrolled in school.

Senate Bill 932 addresses these problems and will allow promising students to complete their studies.

PCC supports all Oregon high school graduates who desire an Oregon Opportunity Grant. While PCC works diligently to keep tuition as affordable as possible, many students still struggle to afford tuition, books, transportation, and living expenses. This is especially true of students who do not qualify for Pell grants.

I respectfully urge your support for Senate Bill 932.

Sincerely,



Jeremy Brown, Ph.D.
President, Portland Community College