

# Oregon TECH

Oregon Institute of Technology

To: Co-Chair Monroe and Co-Chair Komp  
and Members of the Joint Ways and Means Education Subcommittee

From: Ethan Schlecht, Oregon Tech Student Athlete

Subject: Sports Lottery Fund

Date: March 27, 2015

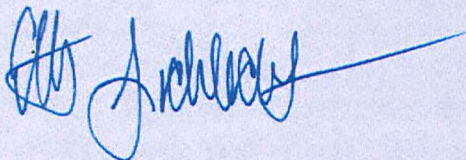
Dear Co-Chair Komp, Co-Chair Monroe, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to tell you how the Sports Lottery fund has made a direct impact on my education. I am on the baseball team at Oregon Tech. I am seeking a degree in Vascular Technology. Sports Lottery funding has given me the opportunity to pursue my dream of being a college baseball player along with getting an excellent education that I can apply after college to get a job. Baseball has prepared me for people to people interaction in a job environment, something I couldn't learn in the classroom. Without the Sports Lottery fund Oregon Tech will need to cut athletic programs and drastically reduce travel expenses to compete in tournaments that build team work, sportsmanship, and leadership skills.

The de-funding of Sports Lottery will also have a quick and direct impact on both female and male athletics at Oregon Tech. Through Sports Lottery funding Oregon Tech provides higher education access to nearly 300 student athletes. Being engaged in intercollegiate athletics, while pursuing an academic degree, has a positive multiplier effect on students. Data show that the average student-athlete has better retention rates, GPAs and graduation rates than students do overall. Sports Lottery funding is also a primary way that campuses are able to meet Title IX requirements to equitably fund women's athletics programs.

I urge you to support the full 1% of lottery funds for university athletic programs, as is required in statute.

Sincerely,



Ethan Schlecht  
Student Athlete  
Oregon Tech

*Hands-on education for real-world achievement.*

27500 SW Parkway Ave. Wilsonville, OR 97070 | 503-821-1250 | [www.oit.edu/wilsonville](http://www.oit.edu/wilsonville)