

A- Eng. HB 2747 House committee on revenue 5/7/2015

SECTION 1

(2) (a) \$4,000 ...for the joint return.....,or \$2,000 for the taxpayer files other than a joint return. What does filing a joint return vs. a non joint, have value. If you continue to reduce support for higher education and increase tuition why do you care about tax credits and how does it offset any increase in tuition?

(3) (a) ... Cost of living adjustment for the calendar year. Will tuition exceed the cost of living adjustment?

SECTION 2

(2) What constitutes a qualified student?.... What constitutes a family... How is the contribution by the state defined? ... To this date the state has changed its percentage of contribution.

(C)Manageable debt burden for the student...How do you define manageable?...Does the school attended, tuition, degree, expenses, and any restrictions on work, loans (type of loans, existing loans), savings and scholarships (what restrictions exist on qualifying) taken into consideration?

(5).....be amount of family share.....definition of family, does it include extended family , care giver of family member... and share?...be based on the resources of the family...Define resources..assests, debt service, health considerations, both employment, medical expenses, insurances, care for an extended family member, existing loan guarantees, exposure to other loans or expenses. Fixed income, credit rating, salary or job stability, contingent liabilities, net worth or negative net worth, credit rating, capital gains.

SECTION 4

(1) “household income”... CAN NOT BE DEFINED... I retired as a Senior-Vice President and Regional Manager mid-Valley, central, and eastern Oregon for First Interstate Bank. The region managed approximately 1 billion in assets.... ”

- (2) ...household income means the aggregate adjusted gross income of all individuals residing with the taxpayer. How does residing with the taxpayer assume that everyone has a financial responsibility for anyone,
- (3) ...allowed credit ...if the taxpayer has a household income of less than; \$70,000 ...is household income the same as individuals residing with the taxpayer?

Respectfully,
Tim Cowan, The Citizens Lobbyist tm

Why are student loans necessary

Trend:

Although the underlying costs of higher education have remained relatively stable, Oregon's decreasing investment in our higher education system have placed more of a burden on students and families.

- * In 1990, about two-thirds of higher education costs were borne by the State. Now it's only just over one-quarter.
 - * Students are asked to pick up the slack, whether in the form of personal savings or student loans.
 - * In response to budgetary shortfalls, it is easier to underfund higher education than other services because the gap will ultimately be made up through student loans or by out-of-state tuition.

Effect:

This results in a long-term divestment in Oregon's economy.

- * Students graduating with student loans have decreased or delayed economic activity.
- * This decreased or delayed economic activity calls into question economic forecasts.

A decade ago, there was only about \$300 billion in such loans outstanding, and now \$1.1 trillion. New York Times May 14 2014

Statistically, limiting educational choices and attainment result in higher public service costs and lower income levels.

Respectfully

Tim Cowan the citizens lobbyist tm