

RE: Senate Bill 932

Monday, June 15, 2015

TO: Joint Commission on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education  
Rep. John Huffman Rep. Betty Komp Rep. Barbara Smith Warner  
Rep. Sherrie Springer Rep. Kathleen Taylor Sen. Rod Monroe  
Sen. Arnie Roblan Sen. Chuck Thomsen

Statement of Jim Ludwick, McMinnville OR

In the 2013 Legislative session in the hearing on House Bill 2787 (in-state tuition for illegal aliens), Jay Kenton, the Chief Finance Officer for the Oregon University System, stated that the difference between in-state tuition and out of state tuition at the University of Oregon is about \$20,000 a year. Unfortunately House Bill 2787 was passed. The result is an American citizen who graduated from high school in Idaho, Washington State, Montana, etc., would pay \$20,000 more in tuition than an illegal alien.

A legal immigrant who files all of the proper paperwork and enters the country legally would pay \$20,000 more in tuition than an illegal alien.

In the same 2013 hearing Senator Michael Dembrow, the Chair of the House Education Committee and an advocate of giving in-state tuition to illegal aliens stated that the bill would not give illegal aliens Oregon Opportunity Grants.

I remember nudging the person next to me and saying -- wait 2 years.

Here we are just 2 years later and the same advocates now want to do just that.

This year just only about 20 percent of the eligible student applicants (all of them citizens or legal residents) received the grants. Now under this bill, SB 932, American citizen students will have to compete with illegal aliens those for grants. That is not fair. Citizenship must mean something or our country is in deep trouble.

Senate Bill 932 has an emergency clause. I would like someone to explain to me - If giving Oregon Opportunity Grants to illegal aliens is an emergency now why wasn't it an emergency last year when the 80 percent of American citizens applying for Oregon opportunity grants were denied?

Why is it only an emergency if illegal aliens are denied Oregon Opportunity Grants? Why isn't it an emergency when Americans are denied the grants?

Your duty and responsibility is to the citizens of the United States, not to citizens of other countries. I urge you to start putting the welfare of American citizens as your priority.

I urge you to vote no on Senate Bill 932.

Jim Ludwick, McMinnville OR  
Founder and Past President, Oregonians for Immigration Reform