



525 NW York Drive, Bend OR 97703 | (541) 647-6426 | [www.hydroflask.com](http://www.hydroflask.com)

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February 23, 2017

House Committee on Higher Education and Workforce  
Representative Jeff Reardon, Chair  
900 Court Street NE, Room 431  
Salem, Oregon 97301

**RE: Support for HB 2782 – Full Funding of OSU-Cascades Expansion**

Chair Reardon and Members of the Committee:

As a Central Oregon business leader, I see OSU Cascades as one of our most exciting developments over the past several years. To build upon the great start Oregon has achieved, I am writing to request full funding of the OSU Cascades Expansion in HB 2782.

We've started to build industry-academia partnerships like those that underpin many other states and regions across the US. Already Hydro Flask investors have gifted \$350,000 to help fund the creation of an Outdoor Products degree program. We are working with the university and our industry to shape this future program. Our vision is to not only provide career opportunities for local students but also to have the next Hydro Flask type success come from a future OSU Cascades student. Of course real jobs, taxes, global brands based here in Oregon, and a vibrant, diverse economy are the benefits for Oregon.

OSU Cascades is a key ingredient for our industry. Please help us build upon our early success by supporting HB 2782 – a great investment in our state's future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Allan".

**Scott Allan**

General Manager / Brand President