

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislature:

The presidents of the following Oregon community colleges support HB2540 which allows community colleges to award a bachelor's degree in Nursing. The degree would allow individuals with an associate degree in nursing to pursue a bachelor's degree in their local community.

If HB 2540 is passed each college's independently elected board of education and college president will determine whether a workforce need exists for the nursing bachelor's degree in their community college district. If the need exists, an application will be made to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to consider approval for offering the degree.

Permitting Oregon community colleges to award bachelor's degrees in nursing will increase the availability of bachelor's degree nursing completion programs in Oregon's communities and provide another pathway for our associate's degree nurses to complete a bachelor's degree. We believe this option will help address Oregon's workforce needs and serve our local communities.

Thank you for your consideration.

### **Oregon's Community Colleges**

Blue Mountain Community College, Pendleton  
Central Oregon Community College, Bend  
Chemeketa Community College, Salem  
Clackamas Community College, Oregon City  
Clatsop Community College, Astoria  
Klamath Community College, Klamath Falls  
Lane Community College, Eugene  
Linn-Benton Community College, Albany  
Mt. Hood Community College, Gresham  
Oregon Coast Community College, Newport  
Portland Community College, Portland  
Rogue Community College, Grants Pass  
Southwestern Oregon Community College, Coos Bay  
Tillamook Bay Community College, Tillamook  
Treasure Valley Community College, Ontario  
Umpqua Community College, Roseburg