



Date: March 24, 2017

To: Oregon Senate Committee on Education

From: Jerry Loveless, Sociology Instructor, Oregon Education Association

Re: In support of SB 196

My name is Jerry Loveless and I work for both Clackamas and Portland Community Colleges as a Part-Time Sociology Instructor. I have been teaching 5 to 7 courses a term as of late (well over the Full-Time Faculty workload) and still have no health insurance through either workplace. My healthcare premiums just went up at the first of the year from 279 dollars a month to \$326 (this does not include the additional 31 dollars a month I have to pay for dental).

Paying such high out of pocket costs for health insurance leaves me with little additional money to cover my rent, food, clothing, travel costs and other essential items; while I am also trying to attend conferences for professional development and save up for those Summer months when I am not working and do not qualify for state aid.

I am humbly requesting that SB196 be approved to ensure that hard-working part-time faculty, such as myself, are not worrying about meeting their basic healthcare needs and scraping by due to such egregiously high medical costs and limited part-time pay. Please help us remain in good health so we can continue to provide high-quality instruction to our students and serve our respective institutions with pride and fervor, as opposed to feeling exploited, over-worked and unwell.

Feel free to contact me with any questions, and I thank you for your time.