



ASSOCIATION OF OREGON FACULTIES

March 28, 2017

To: Senate Committee on Education
Re: SB 196 – Support

Chair Roblan, Vice-Chair Linthicum, and members of the committee,

The Association of Oregon Faculties (AOF) is an independent, non-union based organization representing faculty from Oregon's seven public universities. AOF seeks to protect and improve the working environment and fair compensation for Oregon university faculty and to help ensure that the Oregon University System gets adequate funding in the state appropriations process.

Increasingly, more and more courses in Oregon's higher educational system are being taught by part-time faculty, or adjunct faculty, as the state's universities respond to years of underfunding in their constant need to continue serving our students. As a result, part-time faculty often teach at several institutions during the same term, working many hours a day in jobs with almost no benefits. Senate Bill 196 promises to help these hardworking faculty members by allowing them to aggregate their hours at various institutions in order to be eligible for health care coverage. SB 196 would help to insure that part-time faculty are not unfairly excluded from getting health care benefits even though they meet the total required hours or cause these faculty to choose between purchasing health care and other basic needs. Naturally, AOF will continue its efforts to encourage the universities to hire some of these people as full-time employees, but until that happy day arrives, efforts like SB 196 are vital to helping these faculty members serve our students in the best way possible.

We encourage you to pass this very important bill, please vote yes on SB 196.
Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan Bakalinsky". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Alan Bakalinsky, President,
On behalf of the Board,
Association of Oregon Faculties

Association of Oregon Faculties, 740 Oakway Circle, Ashland, OR 97520

<http://oregonfaculties.org>