

Testimony for the continuation of the Oregon Promise:

As a prior undergraduate student, current College and Career Advocate for North Valley High School, future graduate student, and sister of a soon to be high school graduate, I can attest that the Oregon Promise is a VITAL piece to our education system. I, with certainty and confidence, can look back at my education and say I would have jumped at this opportunity. Not only would I have jumped at this opportunity, but it would have split my student debt in half. From the viewpoint of an employee at an underserved community, (Josephine County is the eighth poorest county in Oregon) I can testify that the Oregon Promise is a large part of how our students get to the college level. Most would never consider school without the Oregon Promise. It allows students, some of which are homeless or support their families, to earn certificates that allow them to support themselves and their families. From a personal viewpoint, I have a little sister who I would like see pursue her passion without falling into the immense burden of student debt. ANY chance to get education, that being prerequisites for a higher degree, an associate, or certificate program, is monumental and crucial for the sake of Oregon's youth.

Thank you.