



American Association of University Professors

Academic Freedom for a Free Society

June 12, 2017

Senator James Manning Jr. and Representative Greg Smith, Co-chairs
Joint Committee On Ways and Means Sub-Committee On General Government
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support of Senate Bill 214 with the -2 amendments

Co-Chair Manning, Co-Chair Smith, and members of the Committee,

My name is Michael Dreiling. I am a professor at the University of Oregon, where I've taught for 21 years. I am president of the Oregon State Conference of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP-Oregon). Thank you for your service to our state, and thank you for the opportunity to communicate with you.

On behalf of the more than 3400 members of the American Association of University Professors in Oregon, our collective bargaining faculty chapters at the University of Oregon and Portland State University, and our faculty members across Oregon, I am here to ask that you *please support* SB 214 with the -2 amendments.

Post-doctoral scholars, although small in numbers, are a very unique component of the research at Oregon public universities. These are also individuals at the beginning stages of their careers, and the position of post-doctoral scholar determines their lifetime prospects.

The -2 amendment proposed to SB 214 strikes a careful balance that will make our public universities more competitive for research funding, while at the same time it will ensure that the interests of early-career researchers in post-doctoral scholar positions are protected, specifically, as regards Oregon public universities' commitment to their professional development, and contributions towards retirement benefits. The -2 amendment is, moreover, an outstanding example of what we can accomplish in Oregon when universities, the union and professional associations representing Oregon faculty, collaborate closely.

We ask that you please support this bill with the -2 amendments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Dreiling', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Michael Dreiling, Ph.D.
President
AAUP-Oregon