

From the office of Representative Dan Rayfield

# HB 3170: A Voice for Oregon's Public University Research Faculty



## The Issue: Globally Recognized, Locally Silenced

Oregon's public universities are renowned for compelling research and instruction on ecosystems, energy sustainability, human health, and technology. Our distinguished universities enhance the welfare of Oregon and the world. Research produced by Oregon faculty increases our economic competitiveness and boosts local economies - especially in rural Oregon. Additionally, our world-class research programs are often supported by external grants that result in significant resources for our state university system.

Although research faculty with limited supervisory authority have the same teaching, research and service responsibilities as their colleagues, they have no right to collectively bargain over wages, benefits, or working conditions. Supervisory duties are incidental and often exercised for a limited period of time.



## The Solution: House Bill 3170

HB 3170 amends the definition of "supervisory authority" in Oregon's Public Employee Collective Bargaining Act (PECBA) to allow faculty with limited supervisory authority the right to collectively bargain for wages, benefits, and working conditions. The bill will allow all teaching and research faculty at Oregon's public universities to have a voice in their workplace by providing access to collective bargaining rights.



## The Details: Nurses and Firefighters Already Have Similar Rights

Nurses with supervisory authority have had the right to collectively bargain since 1995. **In 2014, a similar bill for fire fighters with supervisory authority passed the Oregon House by a bipartisan vote of 54-3.**



## The Details: Administrators Excluded

The bill **only applies to faculty**. It does not apply to administrators like presidents, vice presidents, provosts, vice provosts, deans, associate deans, assistant deans, heads, or equivalent positions. It **does not** apply to faculty employed in an administrative position without a reasonable expectation of teaching, research, or other scholarly accomplishment.



## The Supporters: Faculty, Researchers, and Students

*"I love the work I do, I care deeply for my students, and I am grateful that I spend each day on the forefront of cutting-edge research...I respectfully urge your support of House Bill 3170, so that I may have the same rights and responsibilities as thousands of my fellow faculty throughout Oregon's public universities."*

– Professor Miguel Goni, Oregon State University

*"Part of having a quality education means that all stakeholders at our universities have a voice. We support HB 3170 because we want to ensure that research faculty are being given fair treatment in the work place."*

– Oregon Student Association