



SB 1563 Tuition Equity 3.0
Letter of Support | February 6, 2018

To Chair Roblan, Vice-Chair Linthicum, and members of the Senate Education Committee:

Oregon Student Voice (OSV) is writing in support of SB 1563 to remove barriers to financing higher education for undocumented students.

Who we are. OSV is a student-led organization that empowers students to be authentic partners with K-12 education decision makers. As part of this mission, we actively promote student participation in the K-12 education policy-making process. We strive to advance policies that we believe will enhance Oregon's education system to better support all students and their learning.

SB 1563. This bill changes the language of previous laws to eliminate the necessity for Oregonians to engage with the federal government in order to benefit under tuition equity, such as providing a social security or tax identification number. It also eliminates the liability public higher education institutions face in affording scholarships and financial aid to undocumented students benefiting from tuition equity.

OSV Support. We believe that by improving the accessibility and equity in postsecondary opportunities, students will be more motivated and engaged in their K-12 education. Limitations on access can affect student learning and graduation outcomes. OSV believes that all students should have access to postsecondary opportunities regardless of citizenship status.

We hope that the Senate Education Committee approves SB 1563.

Thank you for your consideration,

Oregon Student Voice