

February 6, 2018

Senate Education Committee

Senator Arnie Roblan, Chair
Senator Dennis Linthicum, Vice Chair
Senator Cliff Bentz
Senator Michael Dembrow
Senator Sara Gelser
Senator Mark Hass
Senator Chuck Thomsen

Dear Senate Education Committee Members,

The Oregon Dental Association is committed to improving oral health for all Oregonians. Critical to that effort is cultivating a diverse and engaged workforce of dentists, and that begins with ensuring that all students have access to affordable education. The ODA, representing 2,200 dentists across the state, supports Senate Bill 1563, which will help ensure that education in Oregon is more accessible to all students.

We are currently aware of three dental students attending the Oregon Health and Science University School of Dentistry who may fall within the purview of this legislation. We know that they will strengthen Oregon's dental community in the coming years and are eager to find opportunities to assist them and other students reach their full potential.

The students that will benefit from Senate Bill 1563 are a vital part of our future dental community, and the Oregon Dental Association encourages your support of this bill.

Sincerely,



Bruce Burton, DMD
President
Oregon Dental Association