

## SB 1554 Allows consideration of balances in 529 accounts for the purpose of making financial aid determinations. Dr. Edith Rusch 2/12/2017

Chair Roblan and Members of the Senate Committee on Education.

Tax Fairness Oregon supports the intent of SB 1554, supplemented by the -1 amendment. This bill actually affects more than the obvious issue of college access for less-well-off Oregon students. When Oregonians can contribute Oregon's College Savings Program without fear of losing any needed family benefits, they also are making a personal investment in making sure their child graduates from high school. Family commitment to high school and beyond is also key factor in developing a highly educated workforce. So this bill has multiple benefits and it a step toward achieving several important legislative and educational goals.

TFO applauds the intent of SB 1554 and urges you to send it directly to the floor for swift passage.

We read the bills and follow the money