



February 21, 2018

Chair Reardon, Vice Chairs Alonso Leon and Whisnant, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) of OR, we respectfully state our support for Senate Bill 1563 A.

AAUW supports increased access to higher education, and advocates on behalf of the civil and human rights of all immigrants. We also promote equitable efforts to close the persistent achievement gap that disproportionately affects students from minority communities.

Requirements that students, who are not citizens or lawful permanent residents, must apply for an official federal identification document in order to be eligible for an exemption from paying nonresident tuition at public universities places needless barriers to their pursuit of higher education and expanded opportunities. It also deprives Oregon of the potential for excellence and leadership these individuals can demonstrate.

DACA Dreamers who have fulfilled residency requirements and graduated from high school should also be able to obtain scholarships and financial aid. There is no educational-based reason that justifies disconnecting these young people from these opportunities.

Sincerely,

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