



THE OREGON STUDENT ASSOCIATION

635 NE Dekum St, Portland, OR, 97211

Phone: (503) 286-0477

www.orstudents.org

TO: Senate Education Committee
FROM: Ramon Fukuichi
SUBJECT: HB 4141
DATE: February 26th, 2017

Chair Roblan and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ramon Fukuichi. I am a second year student at Eastern Oregon University, and I am here with the Oregon Student Association to urge your support of House Bill 4141,

I came to EOU because it is one of the universities in the US that is aware of the Compact of Free Association and it had low cost of attendance. I currently owe \$45,000 in loans and IF I graduate in a year that would increase to over \$60,000. Tuition increased last year and I, along with many others were not aware of that. It only came to my attention when our student trustee mentioned it.

I have become heavily involved as a student leader on campus and as one of the few student leaders on campus I now see the importance of equity and transparency within an institution. HB 4141 will cement tuition equity and transparency into universities and give students the platform to raise their concerns about tuition increases so that our voices can be heard and taken into consideration by the governing boards.

This is why I support HB 4141, and encourage this committee to pass it.

Please remember my story when voting on this bill. Thank you for letting me speak with you today.
Sincerely,

Ramon Fukuichi
Eastern Oregon University
rfukuichi@eou.edu