



February 28, 2018

**TO:** House Committee on Revenue  
**FROM:** Ricardo Lujan-Valerio, OSA Legislative Director  
**SUBJECT:** SB 1528 B

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Chair Barnhart and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ricardo Lujan-Valerio and I am the Legislative Director for the Oregon Student Association (OSA). I'm pleased to testify today in support of SB 1528.

Higher education affordability has become a growing problem in the state of Oregon. Many of our students find themselves struggling to pay tuition and living expenses. The Oregon Opportunity Grant allows thousands of Oregonians to pursue higher education with less financial hardships.

SB 1528, by allowing the Higher Education Coordinating Commission and the Department of Revenue, would give more Oregonians the ability to tap into this great financial aid and achieve their academic goals. The estimated \$14 million dollars of expected funds would be a great step towards making higher education more affordable and accessible.

I urge you to support Senate Bill 1528, both in this committee and in the House floor. This opportunity is the right investment for Oregon's future leaders. Thank you for your time and consideration. I'm available for any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

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