

February 13, 2019

Chair Wagner, Vice Chair Thomsen and members of the committee,

For the record my name is David McDonald. I serve as the Associate Vice President for Public Affairs and Strategic Initiatives for Western Oregon University. My comments today regarding SB 160 are on behalf of Oregon's seven public universities.

As the incoming President of the University of Oregon Faculty Senate will testify, the university concerns are technical in nature. All seven public universities currently accept and IB test scores, and like other public universities on the west coast there is a slight degree of variance in the minimum score that each campus accepts. That variance however is only between a 4 or a 5 and reflects the level of academic preparation that each campus faculty believes students need in order to be successful in the next course in that discipline.

The universities recommend that two amendments to SB 160.

1. The minimum test score required to engage the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) review process to approve a higher test score be set at 5, rather than at 4 as is currently stated in the SB 160.
2. That the review of higher AP and IB scores be conducted by the Oregon Transfer and Articulation Committee.

We believe that these amendments will support student success across all seven public universities.

Thank you

David McDonald,
Associate Vice President for
Public Affairs and Strategic Initiatives