

Oregon Student Association



Date: 2/13/2019

To: Chair Wagner, Vice Chair Thomsen and members of the Senate Education Committee

From: Perla Alvarez, Legislative Director

RE: OSA Support for SB 17, Implementation of the High School Electronic Transcripts

Dear Chair Wagner, Vice Chair Thomsen, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Perla Alvarez and I am the current Legislative Director at the Oregon Student Association. I appreciate the opportunity to testify on SB 17. OSA supports SB 17, which will implement the High School Transcript Task Force with the purpose of facilitating the student experience from high school to higher education.

In my experience working with students across Oregon with different educational backgrounds, I have heard frustrations from some students when transferring from High School to Community College or to University. One of our current board members, Odalis, a 1st year student from the University of Oregon faced challenges when she transferred high schools from David Douglas High School to Milwaukee High School. David Douglas did not capture a math class that she had already taken, and Milwaukee High School placed her into a lower level class. Odalis, already overwhelmed with the transferring process, asked her counselor at David Douglas if they could send an updated transcript reflecting her math class credit that she had received. The counselor did not follow through, so Odalis contacted Milwaukee High School's principal to take action. The principal resolved the situation and Odalis moved to the math class at the level she was supposed to originally enroll.

With the implementation of SB 17, the task force can collect stories from students, like the one from Odalis, to come up with strategies that will alleviate some of the stress from students during the transferring process.

OSA thanks the committee you for your time and encourages the committee to support SB 17.

Thank you for your time.

Perla Alvarez
Legislative Director
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OREGON STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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