

Date: March 10, 2019
To: Oregon Senate Committee on Education
From: Ruth Perkins
Re: Support for SB 852

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

My name is Ruth Perkins and I am a part-time faculty member who teaches classes at Chemeketa Community College. I urge you to support SB 852.

Since I have been a part time instructor, my husband has had open heart surgery, cataract surgery, and kidney failure resulting in hundreds of thousands of medical bills. His health has improved greatly; however, medicine and doctor's care continue to run to thousands of dollars a year.

In the last 3 years, our out of pocket medical expenses were

2016 \$11,762

2017 \$8,839

2018 \$12,759

The actual costs are quite staggeringly higher. Fortunately, we are able to carry our own health insurance. Some of the procedures we would have had to forgo without insurance. We are also fortunate in not having a family to support.

I urge you to consider the situation of the part-time faculty who may be supporting a family, possibly doing without insurance, or struggling to pay for it. It takes only one even relatively small incident to wreak havoc on finances and in a person's life.

Giving part-time faculty health insurance is a worthy investment.

Ruth Perkins,
Chemeketa Community College Part-Time Faculty