

Oregon Student Association



March 20, 2019

To: Senate Committee on Education,
From: Marta Nunez
RE: Senate Bill 859, Tuition Equity 4.0

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

My name is Marta Nunez. My pronouns are she, hers, and her. I am sophomore student in Linn Benton Community Community, LBCC, and majoring in Art and Psychology. I am also involved in the student government as Student Body Vice President, as well as a board member for the Oregon Students of Color Coalition.

I am writing to you all today in support of SB 859 because I believe that everyone deserves to have access and the opportunity to get an education in Oregon, regardless of documentation status. Everyone, including for students who are not from this United States, should have the same rights as a student who was born in the United States. When you all are considering pieces of legislation that are affecting undocumented students throughout the session, I would urge you all to ask yourselves: Are y'all actually helping all Oregon students or just serving as a function?

When all Oregon students can continue through grad school obtain advanced degrees, Oregon wins. These bills would maximize the outcomes of Oregon's education investments by helping more Oregon students afford and complete undergrad then move on to grad school or professional licensing opportunities, which help lead to stable and fruitful careers. Clarifying that TE applies to grad school would remove an arbitrary educational limit that exists for some students. Please show that you support undocumented Oregon students by voting yes on SB 859.

Thank you for your time.

OREGON STUDENT ASSOCIATION

For more information contact Perla Alvarez, Legislative Director perla@orstudents.org or 503-358-2927
635 NE Dekum St, Portland, OR, 97211 | (503) 286-0477 | www.orstudents.org | @OregonStudents