

# Oregon Student Association



March 20, 2019

To: Senate Committee on Education,  
From: Juan Navarro  
RE: SB 958, Dreamers Access Program

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

My name is Juan Navarro and I am a 2nd-year graduate undocumented student at Oregon State University, and I am here with the Oregon Student Association to urge your support of SB 958.

I started off my education at Chemeketa Community College then transferred to Western Oregon University to finish my bachelors. I was lucky enough to be admitted to the College Student Services Administration program at Oregon State University, where I am only one term away from that ever so coveted master's degree. I couldn't have achieved this with my fellow undoc folks, I want to talk about my brother and sister that would benefit from this program.

My sister from Eastern Oregon University took her now almost 7 years to finish her bachelor's degree and going. She wants to go into medicine or do public health policy, she has always worked two jobs to maintain herself and pay off her education. She is one of my most influential women of color you will ever see. She couldn't stand before you all because like most of us, we have to work much more than we should to stay afloat. My brother from the University of Oregon, wants to get into the business world and do well for the community fiscally. He unfortunately didn't have or couldn't obtain enough money to finish off his degree. He has 1.5 years left. He couldn't be here because he works.

Juan, why are you sharing other people's experiences and not yours? Not all undocumented students are the iconic story where they get full ride scholarships. Some of us don't get a scholarships while some may get a couple. Their stories are my stories and mine are theirs. We stand and fall together. We can't truly have equity until we are able to support all students. They both would benefit so much from a loan program to help finish. I also use this analogy when an undocumented students makes it across the unstable bridge, we help stabilize for the next. Would you the committee help us in fixing this bridge?

This is why I support SB 958, and encourage this committee to pass it.  
Please remember my story when voting on this bill. Thank you for letting me speak with you today.

## **OREGON STUDENT ASSOCIATION**

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Sincerely,

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