

## **Oregon Student Association**

March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018

To: Senate Committee on Education

From: Perla Alvarez, Oregon Student Association Legislative Director

RE: SB 730

Dear members of the committee,

My name is Perla Alvarez and I am the Legislative Director at the Oregon Student Association. I am here in support of SB 730 and I encourage the committee to vote yes on this bill. The Oregon Student Association is a statewide student-led, student-run organization that advocates for an accessible and affordable higher education. OSA supports SB 730, which expands on the Transfer Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities.

OSA was a strong supporter of HB 2998 in 2017 because we believe in an accessible and seamless transfer process from high school to community college to university. Students choose to attend community college because it is a more affordable option and it contributes to preparing students for a 4-year university by proving classes that satisfy general education requirements. However, many students express frustrations with the transfer process from community colleges to universities especially when their general education credits do not transfer. When credits do not transfer, students lose money and time that students simply cannot afford. This problem negatively impacts low-income students the most. Therefore, OSA believes that SB 730 is the next right step in which Oregon can continue to support students.

OSA thanks the committee for your continuous support on behalf of students and urges this committee to vote yes on SB 730.

Thank you for your time.