To Whom It May Concern,

Portland Community College is in support of SB 730. This bill provides further clarification and builds on the important work of HB 2998. PCC students are transferring most often to Oregon's public universities, we are looking forward to clearer paths to competition.

SB 730 continues the work on transfer and the creation of unified statewide transfer agreements (USTAs) that is reflected in current law as a result of the passage of HB 2998 in 2017. An advisory group, the Oregon Transfer Articulation Committee (OTAC), made up of community college and university faculty and instructional administrators has been working on the foundational curriculum and USTAs for nearly 18 months. The first two USTAs, Biology and English, have been approved.

This bill, SB 730 provides greater flexibility to community college and university instructional administrators and faculty who are working on the transfer agreements and ensures they will not get stuck in their work if they cannot agree on a single path.

This collaborative process is working effectively. It is not always easy but both parties have representatives chosen by their institutions at the table on both the OTAC and the USTA work groups. SB 730 will ensure that this work continues and the transfer maps developed as a result, benefit students at any point they decide to transfer from a community college to a university with minimal loss of credit.

The impetus for this work can be easily seen in an example from a PCC student who completed their AAOT and was planning to transfer as a business major to one of Oregon's public universities. This student will have to take up to 8 courses under 300 level before he can start as a junior in his desired major. With clearer transfer pathways this student won't have to choose between loss of credits and switching majors.

Both universities and community colleges are interested in clarifying these paths, improving advising, and insuring that transferring is as easy as possible. SB 730 builds on and clarifies the good work in HB 2998.

Thank you.

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