

April 3, 2019

HB 3280 (2019)

House Education Committee

Good afternoon members of the House Education Committee. My name is Frank Goulard. I have been a faculty at Portland Community College since 1981. In addition to being a math faculty, I've also served our beloved Oregon in various volunteer capacities over these many years, from the PERS Deferred Compensation Advisory Board chair, to Essential Budget Level work, and, since the Higher Education Coordinating Commission's (HECC) full 2013 inception, as its community college faculty member.

As I reflect on these last six years on the HECC, it has been a true honor to work with my fellow commissioners, Executive Director Ben Cannon, and the entire HECC staff. Having grown up and been influenced by parents who were both public university aeronautical engineering professors, I fully appreciate and embrace education, and in particular higher education, as a strong viable path of opportunity. It isn't only about the credential and the career, but it is also about being part of a democratic, well-informed citizenry so we can continually strive for a better Oregon for Oregonians. At the HECC, the breadth of knowledge, insights, and professionalism has been outstanding. We work very cohesively, deliberately, and thoughtfully, listening to perspectives, arriving at unanimous or near unanimous decision for Oregon and Oregonians; if you aren't already proud of all that, let me tell you, you should be.

I too am proud, and honored, to roll up my sleeves, to work side by side with my fellow commissioners, HECC staff, and Oregonians on important education issues that we face. Similarly, I know faculty colleagues who serve tirelessly on Oregon's health professional licensing boards. Those boards have a majority composition of members of that profession, with full voting rights.

As a faculty whose feet, eyes, and ears are on the ground with our students, I would hope that the professionalism and respect that we all continue to hold dear would also extend to the professionalism and respect of equal and full voting rights for all HECC commissioners.

Please support the passage of House Bill 3280. Thank you.