



Oregon Student Association

Chair Doherty, Vice-Chairs Alonso Leon & Helt, and Members of the Committee,

Hello, my name is Tan Perkins and I am a senior at the University of Oregon. I am here to advocate for a yes vote on HB 3280 and for students, faculty, and staff having voting rights on the HECC.

Throughout my time at the university I have seen many decision be made that directly affect my ability to survive, but these decisions have been made without any input from the people they affect the most -- students. Although some may think that students cannot understand the complexity of budgeting, policy, or other topics that the HECC or BOT may address, this is simply untrue. In any situation it is incredibly important that you receive input from the people that you will be directly impacting the most. Decision that are made behind closed doors with very little accountability can quickly get out of hand and can be unrealistic to what is feasible for people to undertake.

Student voices are essential on any body that makes decisions regarding students. Many people who sit on these bodies have been out of school for some time and when they did attend the cost, environment, and expectations were drastically different. Student voices offer realistic checks to recommendations and offer an in-house test pool for ideas. Without students' ability to advocate for themselves decisions that are made can be extremely unfair and unrealistic. As a necessity and a huge benefit, student voices should not be discounted. We pay for these institutions, and these institutions are supposed to serve us. We are the stakeholders, and unfortunately a huge funding source for universities and community colleges, it is only fair that we get a say. For these reasons, I urge you to allow students to have the same voting rights enjoyed by the other members of the HECC. Please vote yes on HB 3280.

Tan Perkins
Student, University of Oregon

OREGON STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The Oregon Student Association (OSA) is a statewide, student-led advocacy and organizing non-profit established in 1975 to represent, serve, and protect the collective interests of students in postsecondary education in Oregon

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