

To the Joint Committee On Student Success:

The proposed funding priorities for the business tax package are painfully ironic. Although the revenue would be generated by a tax on Oregon businesses, the committee's published priorities omit higher education. I am particularly concerned that these priorities ignore community colleges, which are crucial resources for businesses in rural communities.

Businesses rely on community colleges not only to train our future workforce, but also to support the career growth of our current workforce. Taxing businesses to support education, while ignoring institutions that support business success, starves the golden goose.

This letter should not be construed as an endorsement for higher taxes on businesses. But if this tax package moves forward, it should include funding for post-secondary education -- in particular, community college-based CTE.

Thank you,

**Clark Walworth**

2019 President

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