

From: [Mary Ann Bugni](#)
To: [JCSS Exhibits](#)
Subject: Support for Community Colleges
Date: Tuesday, April 16, 2019 8:55:30 PM

Co-Chair Roblan, Co-Chair Smith Warner, Co-Vice Chair Knopp, Co-Vice Chair Smith and Members of the Committee

Subject: Please Don't Leave Community College Students Behind in New Education Funding

As a volunteer high school ASPIRE mentor who has worked with students for more than ten years to plan for their post high school careers, I know the incredible importance of post high school education to acquire today's well-paying jobs. Legislators have a once-in-decade opportunity to invest in Oregon students and reform Oregon's tax system, but the current plan leaves college students behind.

By 2020, 65 percent of new jobs are expected to require education and training beyond high school. To provide Oregonians the opportunity they need to thrive and for businesses to help grow the economy, we need to support students from cradle to career.

Since Measure 5, Oregon students have seen tuition increases vastly outpace inflation while programs and services have been cut because state investment fell further behind. Student debt is higher than it's ever been.

I urge you to support Governor Kate Brown's call for including post-secondary education in the spending proposal before this committee.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

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