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To: Joint Subcommittee On General Government

From: AFT-Oregon Date: March 2, 2021

Re: Support for Senate Bill 5501

Co-Chair Golden, Co-Chair Smith, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the American Federation of Teachers-Oregon (AFT-Oregon), I respectfully urge your support for Senate Bill 5501. AFT-Oregon represents approximately 16,000 workers in Oregon's community colleges and universities as faculty, graduate employees and classified positions, in K-12 as classified positions, and as childcare workers. These members stand in support of increased funding for the Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office (OACO).

The OACO supports the statutory work of the Oregon Advocacy Commissions (OACs), which advocate for traditionally underrepresented communities. AFT-Oregon supports fully funding the OACO so that it can more effectively represent the interests of the OACs. We support SB 5501, which represents a small step toward a fully funded OACO.

AFT-Oregon and its members urge your support of Senate Bill 5501.

Sincerely,

Jaime Rodriguez

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President

AFT-Oregon