

I am a fifth generation Portlander, an Americorps member, and an active community member working to uplift other community members. Americorps members receive well below minimum wage when calculated using number of hours worked. But we do not serve for this reason. We serve to learn, grow, and to enhance our homes. This is an ideal many of us live by and the education award is an extension of this ideal. Some of us use it to pay off student loans. Others use it to go back to school to add to our skill sets. The education award benefits not only us but the world. We should all be incentivized to grow and be curious without the burden of being financially strained. Please consider supporting this bill. Thank you.