



Jaime Rodriguez, President
10228 SW Capitol
Hwy • Portland, OR 97219 C: 503-933-8471
• O: 971-888-5665 • E:
jaimer@aft-oregon.org
www.aft-oregon.org

To: House Committee on Education
From: AFT-Oregon
Date: February 18, 2021
Re: Support for House Bill 3007

Chair Alonso Leon and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the American Federation of Teachers-Oregon (AFT-Oregon), I respectfully urge your support for House Bill 3007. AFT-Oregon represents approximately 16,000 workers in Oregon's community college and universities in faculty, graduate employee, and classified positions, K-12 classified positions, and childcare workers. These members stand in support of expanding access to healthcare benefits for part-time faculty of public institutions.

Currently faculty who teach part-time at more than one public institution are being unfairly denied access to healthcare benefits. Since all their jobs are considered part-time, none of their institutions will cover their healthcare benefits, though the total number of classes taught would make them eligible if they taught that course load at only one of the public institutions. **In many cases, these hardworking faculty members are teaching enough credits to be considered more than full-time**, but because it is between multiple institutions they are still not able to access affordable healthcare.

These approximately 1700 part-time teachers are denied benefits even though they teach for the same employer, the State of Oregon. They are already some of Oregon's hardest working teachers as they shuttle back and forth between campuses and educational systems. Now in the middle of a pandemic, it's vital that the State of Oregon recognizes its obligation to provide healthcare benefits to all its eligible faculty.

AFT-Oregon and its members urge your support of House Bill 3007.

Sincerely,

/signed/

Jaime Rodriguez
President
AFT-Oregon