

Dear members of the committee,

My name is Nathaniel Leof and I am a student at the University of Oregon, as well as the Chief of Staff for the ASUO Executive Branch.

I want to thank you for your consideration of this bill, and to ask you to vote yes on HB 3012 which will help ensure that student governments across the state remain in control of their own budgets.

The student government fee at the University of Oregon is crucial to help ensure that *all* students can have a welcoming, empowering, and accessible education. Our fee, and our process of allocating that fee, is unique in that it is only way for students to have control on campus of how they spend their own money. I believe that it is crucial to allow students to continue to decide how they spend their student fee because students will know what students need better than anyone else. From helping students who are food insecure, to providing funding for identity specific places on campus, to entertaining students with concerts and trivia games, student government is at the crux of the student experience at the University of Oregon, and maintaining our autonomy is crucial in ensuring that students continue to have these experiences into the future.

Additionally, having an independent student government allows for important and irreplaceable opportunities to grow as a student and leader. I have been very lucky and thankful to be able to hold this position this past year, and it has helped me grow, especially as a teammate. By voting yes to ensure that student fee autonomy is protected, you would be protecting what makes my position, and so many others, challenging and rewarding on campus.

Thank you for your time, and please vote yes on HB 3012.