

Hello to the Education Committee,

My name is Courtney Anderson and I am 3rd year at Portland State University studying community development.

I am writing today to ask you to vote yes on HB 2524, which would create mandatory fee transparency at all public colleges.

Prior to enrolling in my classes, I was not told how much I would be paying in fees. It is like buying a car from a shady dealer where they throw all these extra fees at you. I was told at Portland State's student fee meeting that our fees are going to pay for utilities at buildings we are not allowed to use as well as towards their debt. Administration is not being transparent and accountable to students regarding budget decisions. They hide these fees and then tell you about them after classes have already started. They also do not explain what the fee is for or where it is being allocated. The cost of attendance has impacted me greatly as my mother makes less than \$800 a year. My father is also lower income. This results in all of the cost of attendance falling on to me, so I have to decide whether I should go into debt or work 80 hours a week if I do not receive enough financial aid.

HB 2542 is about transparency and accountability at our colleges, so that students can have the information they need to manage their finances better and succeed in school.

Thank you for your time. Please vote yes on this bill.

Sincerely,

Courtney Anderson