



Date: February 8, 2022

To: Senate Committee on Education

Re: OEA support for SB1572-2

First off, SB 1572 as originally drafted is important. Oregon should be doing everything it can to curb sexual violence, and efforts in institutions of higher education should be redoubled. We hope that this conversation continues, and that the legislature will fund this important work in the future.

The -2 amendment is critical for the higher education system in Oregon. Right now, institutions have leeway in how they calculate hours worked for any benefit, and each institution could have a separate calculation for each benefit.

In SB 1572-2's case, part time faculty who should qualify for Public Service Loan Forgiveness are not being given the supports promised them in law because hours calculations are not uniform throughout institutions. Clarifying how the ratio of 4.35 hours for every hour spent in the classroom is to be calculated will help ensure compliance by the institutions, and certainty for the faculty.

We are thrilled to see the legislature take this important step towards standardizing basic benefits for part time faculty, and we hope that this ratio can be extended to all benefits to ensure fair and equitable treatment of part time faculty across Oregon's higher education system.