



Harmony Community Campus
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Education That Works

TO: Chair Dembrow, Vice-Chair Suzanne Weber, and Members of the Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Virginia Chambers, Director of Health Sciences at Clackamas Community College

Date: March 1, 2023

RE: Support for SB 523

Dear Senators of the State Committee on Education:

Community Colleges lead the way for equal educational opportunities and social mobility. We support access to success for all students and provide a social justice framework critical to addressing the systemic racism within our healthcare system.

Working in collaboration with the Nurse Administrator, we (administration) have doubled our Part-time faculty pool, created new and appropriate lead faculty positions (Clinical, Simulation, and Lab) and developed a robust on-boarding and training protocol for all new Nurse Faculty hires (e.g., clinical faculty, instructional, full-time, part-time).

The collaboration of professional Nurse Faculty and Community College Administration are fully capable of creating new ways of meeting community needs. Community Colleges are ready to pursue an extension of our currently successful model of providing high quality Associate Degree Nursing Education – and implement a Bachelors Degree in Nursing.

No clinicals are required.

We have qualified faculty.

We have the ability to accept more students. With online learning, hybrid models and our instructional designers who are currently collaborating with Health Science faculty – we have plenty of resources to provide an increase in enrollment. Especially, when the Bachelors extension will not impact our clinical placement.

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