



# American Association of University Professors

*Academic Freedom for a Free Society*

Senator Dembrow, Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Education  
Oregon State Capitol  
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Senate Bill 458 - Support

Chair Dembrow, Vice-Chair Weber and members of the Committee,

On behalf of the more than 6,300 members of the American Association of University Professors in Oregon, our collective bargaining chapters at the University of Oregon, Portland State University, Oregon State University, and Oregon Institute of Technology, and our faculty members across Oregon, I ask that you please support SB 458.

In addition to campus classrooms, our members work in Oregon State University Extension, the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Stations and the Forest Research Laboratory. SB 458 restores basic funding, and targets additional funding for research and community-based engagement to address Oregon's most pressing needs. SB 458 is critical for supporting and retaining our faculty members who work at the Statewides.

OSU's Land Grant mission is essential to the economic well-being of our state, and these faculty are the ones who deliver that mission. Over the years, our faculty at the Statewides have developed deep relationships with communities and stakeholders and know Oregon's issues inside and out. As you know, Oregon's Statewides are funded by a declining patchwork of state, federal, and local funds, which can leave faculty with a sense of precarity. SB 458 will help stabilize and expand funding for research personnel and programs, and give our faculty the ability to address the critical issues our state faces.

Research programs at higher education institutions across Oregon depend on both tenured professors, who direct programs, and non-tenured research personnel, who manage labs and perform hands-on research. The AAUP-OR supports these hard working faculty and personnel working in every aspect of the research enterprise. Please support Oregon's students and faculty by supporting HB 2740.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Louisa Hooven  
VP of Political Action, AAUP Oregon