

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

FROM: Jessica Lundberg

Current Registered Nursing Student, Klamath Community College

DATE: March 3, 2023

RE: Support for SB 523

Dear Senators of the State Committee on Education:

Thank you for allowing me to express my support for Senate Bill 523 and for taking the time to read my testimony. I am a current nursing student at Klamath Community College and will be graduating this June with my Associates Degree in Registered Nursing. I am looking forward to beginning my nursing career this year and serving the community of Klamath Falls after graduation.

My entire degree, including prerequisite courses, has been furnished at Klamath Community College. Over the last two years, I have found the leadership and instructors of Klamath Community College to be supportive and provide superior education to their students. I am a nontraditional college student, military wife, mother, and veteran. Receiving a quality education at a community college has been an affordable and worthwhile option for students like me.

I have received an incredible college experience while in nursing school. I am excited about the potential opportunity for the RN to BSN program to start at Klamath Community College. It would be a great advantage to the nursing profession in our rural community and for the state of Oregon to have this baccalaureate program available.

ADN graduates are currently limited to out-of-state or expensive online programs to obtain a baccalaureate degree. I would personally prefer and benefit from continuing my education with an institution that is local with familiar, supportive instructors who are experienced in rural healthcare. I would proudly return to Klamath Community College to further my education and pursue a baccalaureate degree. Thank you for your time, consideration, and support.

Sincerely,

Jessica Lundberg