

March 14, 2023

**Richard Larson**  
6645 SE Stark St  
Portland, OR 97215

**Dear Chair Dembrow and Members of the Senate Education Committee:**

My name is Richard Larson, I am the Father of one of a Career and Community Studies Program (CCS) student (graduate). I am writing to you in support of **Senate Bill 572: Inclusive Postsecondary Education for Youth with Intellectual Disabilities.**

My Son, William Larson, benefited from CCS in more ways than I can describe here today. Many students with intellectual and developmental disabilities did not have an opportunity to enroll in college, reach their full potential, earn competitive integrated employment, and experience inclusive social engagement and independent living.

When Will was leaving special education he faced many “no’s” from others who did not think it was possible to attend a postsecondary program like PSU. With CCS support Will graduated from a 4 year program at PSU.

The CCS program is a game changer for Will because the program provided the support needed for full included in academic coursework at PSU. This support is provided in a variety of ways, including through academic coaching and an individualized learning plan that allows them to show what they know in classes.

The CCS program also helps Will with career development and employment leading to a career pathway in an area of interest. Will has always worked while going to school and is receiving individualized career counseling to help him achieve employment goals. Will is currently employed and working with Portland Public Schools.

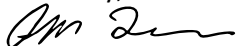
Senate Bill 572 will change lives by sustaining PSU’s CCS program AND expanding inclusive college options at community colleges across Oregon.

**I ask the Honorable Members of the Senate Education Committee to vote yes on Senate Bill 572.**

Please don’t miss this opportunity to support so many caring and generous members of our communities.

Thank you for your time and service to the people of Oregon.

Sincerely,

  
Richard Larson