

American Association of University Professors

Academic Freedom for a Free Society

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

April 27, 2023

Re: House Bill 2740A - 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 HB 2740-A.

We believe that HB 2740-A is a necessary refinement of how hours of service are calculated for community college and university faculty as they relate to retirement benefits. 2740-A will bring consistency and more certainty to hard-working faculty in their calculation for PERS.

These refinements are necessary because higher education institutions across Oregon disproportionately rely on part-time faculty, who often have to work at multiple institutions for lower wages than full time faculty, simply to get by. HB 2740-A could help these "highway fliers" by making sure there is a consistent calculation for retirement benefits that these hard-working Oregonians deserve.

Faculty working conditions are directly linked to student learning conditions, thus making sure that hard-working faculty have consistency across institutions is in everyone's interest.

Please support Oregon's students and faculty by supporting HB 2740-A.

Thank you for your consideration, Victor Reyes Director, AAUP Oregon