

Submitter: Athena Lieuallen

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB604

I'd like to express my support for the Strong Start Grant that helps support our Destination Western Program at Western Oregon University. In my experience, many of the students coming to Western's campus are first generation students or have not been on their own. Having a program that helps them acclimate to university life is essential in helping students build confidence and gain knowledge on how to be a successful student builds a foundation for them to thrive. The program allows students to connect with others and learn about resources prior to our very fast quarter system taking off. Building that foundation prior to the term takes time and resources, but the investment has been worth it for students. Please invest in university students with the Strong Start Grant. Thank you!