

Submitter: Jay Schwartz

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB604

I am a Professor of Psychological Sciences at Western Oregon University. I have seen first hand the positive impact that the Strong Start Program has had for students, the local community, and state of Oregon. I teach and advise many first-generation and/or underrepresented students who aspire to use their education to go into mental health fields--in which there is a documented shortage of workers in Oregon. The Strong Start program is crucial to the success of those students, and to meeting the mental health needs of Oregonians.