

Submitter: Katrien Cokeley
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5006

Dear Representatives,

This is a statement in support of guaranteed funding for higher education. The following allocation packages are waiting for your approval: \$7-10M investment for Strong Start (Destination Western); \$450M investment in the Oregon Opportunity Grant; and \$1.275B for the Public University Support Fund.

Funding for education is under threat since the current federal administration has eliminated the Department of Education, and continues to threaten institutions that have DEI programs in place. This is unacceptable, and frankly sends the wrong message to our children, young adults, families, educators and supportive staff who depend on public education. Oregon State must carry its weight and continue to fund higher education, as well as K-12 institutions.

Respectfully,

Katrien Cokeley