



# American Association of University Professors

*Academic Freedom for a Free Society*

February 18, 2026

House Committee on Revenue  
Oregon State Capitol  
Salem, OR 97301

Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chairs Reschke and Walters, and members of the Committee,

On behalf of the more than 3,000 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 in advocacy chapters across Oregon, we urge you to support SB 1507-A.

While it is true that HR1 (2025), the so-called “Big Beautiful Bill”, has negatively impacted our state’s budget and created difficult decisions for the legislature, adopting the austerity measures called for by Governor Kotek will only serve to harm all but the wealthiest individuals in our state. By closing just a handful of tax loopholes that disproportionately benefit large corporations and the very wealthy, Senate Bill 1507-A helps Oregon recoup \$311.6 million in funding for programs Oregonians care about, like education and healthcare for children, seniors, low-income families, and people with disabilities.

Without your support for SB 1507-A, Oregon’s public universities and community colleges will face devastating cuts at a time when our institutions are already severely underfunded. We are 44th in the nation for state investment in public universities. As of 2023, every state that borders ours invests more in their community college and public university students than Oregon does, and as a recent HECC report underscores, our public institutions use what little money we get from the state responsibly. Further cuts to the HECC budget will lead to the loss of faculty and staff positions, diminish the quality of education and student support that our students deserve, and fuel Oregon’s higher education affordability and student debt crises.

Higher education should not be sacrificed in order to enrich a tiny portion of our state. History has shown that tax cuts to the rich rarely trickle down to improve the lives of the

working class. In contrast, education transforms lives, and our members' work fuels the future of our state, ensuring that businesses in Oregon have a highly-educated and skilled workforce to help their companies succeed. In light of this reality, it is clear that companies and the wealthy individuals who profit from those companies should pay their fair share.

This is your moment to lead our state through these challenging times. The best way for you to do that is by passing SB 1507-A and rejecting some of the most egregious and costly tax breaks for corporations and the wealthy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Victor Reyes  
Executive Director, AAUP Oregon