

Submitter: Shelby Worthing  
On Behalf Of: Western Oregon University  
Committee: House Committee On Higher Education and Workforce Development  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3182

I am writing to express my strong support for HB3182, which aims to continue funding for basic needs programs at Oregon's public universities and community colleges. This legislation is essential to ensuring that students, especially those from low-income backgrounds, can access the resources necessary to succeed in higher education.

Previous legislative measures have made significant strides in supporting students by requiring institutions to hire benefits navigators and providing funding for basic needs programming.

The continued funding provided through this bill will allow public universities and community colleges to sustain and expand these critical programs.

Access to higher education should not be limited by a student's ability to afford food, housing, or healthcare. This bill represents an investment in Oregon's future, ensuring that all students, regardless of financial status, can focus on their academic success without the burden of unmet basic needs.

I urge you to pass this bill and continue supporting students across the state. Thank you for your time and consideration.