

Good morning, Chair Hudson, Vice Chairs Fragala and Harwick, and members of the committee,

My name is Elijah Waller, and I am a student at Mt. Hood Community College.

I am writing in support of HB 3182 and HB 3183: The Student Basic Needs and Workforce Stabilization Act, which will make important investments in student basic needs initiatives, affordable student housing initiatives, and textbook affordability.

I am a student in nontraditional housing and the resources at Mt. Hood Community College such as the pantry and places with internet and power to be able to study have been very helpful. It is most important to empower students with resources as inflation continues to rise and the cost-of-living increases.

This makes it harder for students who have to work more to support themselves while still going to school, from personal experience there is a good number of students who are on their own trying to support themselves and resources provided by Mt. Hood Community College help ease the stress that comes with trying to make it in the world today.

Thank you for your time, and I hope that I can count on your support of HB 3182 and HB 3183: The Student Basic Needs and Workforce Stabilization Act. Students cannot wait any longer!