

Deschutes County Board of County Commissioners

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February 23, 2017

Representative Jeff Reardon, Chair House Committee on Higher Education and Workforce Development 900 Court St. NE Salem Oregon 97301

RE: Expansion of Oregon State University-Cascades Campus / HB 2782

Dear Chair Reardon and Members of the Committee:

The Deschutes County Board of Commissioners strongly supports passage of HB 2782, in order to facilitate the expansion of Oregon State University-Cascades Campus.

The establishment of OSU-Cascades in Bend and Deschutes County represents a significant economic boost to Central Oregon. The tailoring of degree programs to meet the needs of regional industries is a wonderful example of how the school has already adapted to the emerging needs of our local economy. We are convinced that the expansion of the campus will allow OSU-Cascades to continue to grow with the community and help ensure the continued growth in prosperity of the more rural parts of our state in central and eastern Oregon.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Tammy Baney, Chair