From: Anna Warntjes
To: JWMED Exhibits
Subject: Anna Warntjes Testimony: SB 5524 for April 10th Public Hearing
Date: Thursday, April 06, 2017 4:10:47 PM

To Whom it May Concern:

I am an English and History teacher for grades 10-12. I currently have over 25 students who plan on attending a community college and utilizing the Oregon Promise Grant. I have many graduated students currently using the Oregon Promise Grant for their education. As a teacher in a school with a very high poverty rate(64% qualify for Free or Reduced Lunch), this program is vital to the college success of my students. Many have little to no financial support from parents or guardians. Many will be the first to attend college in their family. Many will not be successful if they do not receive this grant. Our youth are the future of success in our state. If we want to encourage growth and improve the economy, eliminating access to higher education is not the right step. When making decisions affecting the budget, education should not be the cutting point. Our students need every single tool we can provide them with in order to ensure success and to encourage our youth to pursue a college degree and in turn change the world. Please make the choice to fund Oregon Promise. Our future college students are depending on you to make the right choice.

Anna Warntjes
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"Connect~Create~Change"