March 9, 2017

Re: Support of HB 2147

Committee members,

Thank you for your continued support of Oregon K-12 institutions in our efforts to improve important educational and social outcomes for the future generations of Oregonians. The success of our public schools to graduate students ready for the challenges of post-secondary education is an absolute requisite to reaching our state's economic, civic, and political goals. School districts experiencing the greatest successes in improving their graduation rates are engaged in a similar set of strategies: academic rigor and clarity, connecting coursework to real-world careers and future dreams, family and community engagement, and data-driven decision-making and reflection.

HB 2147 ensures that Oregon's K-12 institutions have the necessary data to inform our practices. In order for Oregon's K-12 system to improve, we must better understand what is happening for our graduates after they leave our doors and open others. HB 2147 is a first step in completing the data feedback loop to our high schools about students' post-secondary enrollment and completion - information necessary to improve our practices at the K-12 level.

I urge the Committee to move HB 2147 forward.

Once again, I thank you for your service to the State of Oregon and to our future generations of thinkers and leaders - our youth.

Sincerely,

Dan Goldman