

850 SW 35th Street Corvallis, OR 97333-4015

P 541-737-4218 F 541-737-0498 osufoundation.org

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Members of the Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Oregon State University Foundation to offer my support for HB 4026, specifically the included language that will remove charitable giving as a factor in determining a person's Oregon residency.

OSU has many alumni who no longer live in the state but continue to be active supporters of and generous donors to the university. In my work as the Foundation's senior athletics fundraiser, I know that we rely on the support of many out-of-state Beaver fans who remain committed to our teams despite no longer living in Oregon. The fear that giving to OSU could expose these donors to additional Oregon tax liabilities could negatively impact our ability to raise funds from these supporters. We feel strongly that a desire to support the university – to help our students and programs succeed – should not come with the risk that a donor's philanthropy will be used as evidence against them in a dispute over residency.

Our alumni and supporters are driven by a belief that OSU is a special place making a positive and unique impact on the world. I strongly encourage you to implement the change included in this bill so that that enthusiasm need not be weighed against the fear that their giving could have significant negative repercussions.

Let's not put barriers in the way of philanthropy.

With best regards,

Alex Gary

Senior Director of Development and Senior Associate Athletic Director