

# Oregon Student Association



April 15, 2019

To: House Rules Committee

From: Perla Alvarez, Legislative Director, Oregon Student Association

RE: OSA Support for HB 3310

Chair Holvey, Vice Chair Williamson, Vice Chair Wilson, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Perla Alvarez and I am the Legislative Director for the Oregon Student Association. The Oregon Student Association represents over 130,000 university and community college students statewide and work towards an affordable and accessible higher education for all Oregonians. The Oregon Student Association supports the Oregon Voting Rights Act, HB 3310, which would ensure that schools are truly representative of the communities they represent.

Evidence shows that schools are becoming more diverse, and the leadership entities that make decisions that impact our students should be representative of the communities that they serve. HB 3310 is one step closer to that vision and it would create a system that allows communities feel empowered and witness democracy play out.

OSA represents student from three Community Colleges: Lance Community College, Linn Benton Community College and Central Oregon Community College. All these three colleges have a very diverse student population where ~25% of the student population come from a historically marginalized community. These communities are also underrepresented in the Community College's board of education, which is unacceptable. HB 3310 would ensure that students act in the democratic process to ensure that their boards are more representative of the student body. The Oregon Student Association urges this committee to support for HB 3310 to change our systems and work towards a democracy that truly represents us all.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Perla Alvarez

Legislative Director

Oregon Student Association

## OREGON STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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