



CITY OF
PORTLAND, OREGON

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

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April 18, 2019

Senator Lew Frederick, Co-Chair
Representative Susan McLain, Co-Chair
Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education
900 Court Street NE, HR 170
Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 5024 – Public University State Public Service Programs

Dear Co-Chairs Frederick and McLain and Members of the Subcommittee,

The City of Portland supports continued and sustained funding for the Population Research Center (PRC) at Portland State University and the Oregon Climate Change Research Institute (OCCRI) at Oregon State University. Both programs provide critical research and data that is utilized by many of the City's bureaus.

The City of Portland is working to reduce the undercount in the 2020 census by building community and regional partnerships for civic engagement. The City recognizes the work of PRC and their critical role in providing population data and analysis for Oregon and its communities. PRC led a regional census hard-to-count research effort in partnership with the City of Portland; Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas counties; Metro; community-based organizations; and philanthropic funders. Ensuring a fair and accurate Census 2020 count is critical. The City of Portland supports the PRC's work with demographic research, especially as the PRC supports data-driven decision making that helps to ensure a more complete and inclusive census count for Oregon.

Public University State Public Service Programs support excellent, data-informed policies across all-matter of subject areas. In addition to the work of the PRC, the City of Portland especially relies on the research of OCCRI to inform both seasonal and long-term water supply and climate change planning. OCCRI develops climate change information and data for long-term water supply planning and impacts assessment. Additionally, OCCRI reports and technical expertise were fundamental in developing a Climate Change Risk and Vulnerabilities Assessment for the 2015 City of Portland and Multnomah County Climate Action Plan. The City is planning to use OCCRI's research and technical expertise to update the science assessment for the forthcoming 2020 Climate Action Plan.

The City of Portland respectfully urges your support of funding for the PRC and OCCRI. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Edwards, City of Portland