



# Oregon Student Association

March 20, 2019

To: Senate Committee on Education  
From: Ana Sally Gonzalez Barragan  
RE: SB 859

Chair Wagner , Vice-Chair Thomsen and Members of the Committee,

My name is Ana Sally Gonzalez Barragan and I am a second year student at Western Oregon University, and I am here with the Oregon Student Association to urge your support of SB 859.

Senate Bill 859 would allow me to attend graduate school with in-state tuition and fees at a public university. A few years ago when I was applying for undergraduate programs, I worried if I could even afford to attend school with out-of state tuition and fees. I've attended Oregon schools since the first grade. I am so Oregonian that I love our bipolar weather, yet I could not attend a university with in-state tuition and fees like most of the classmates I grew up with. Fortunately with the help of an amazing college and career counselor in high school I found out about tuition equity. As I navigated my first year at Western Oregon University, I thought that I was set and would be able to receive my undergraduate diploma without having to worry about paying out-of-state tuition and fees. However, while I discussed my educational future with the future school district that I will work for in the future, I found out that I would not continue benefiting from tuition equity once I return for my masters in education.

As a future bilingual high school teacher, I am already aware that my salary won't be as extravagant as with other fields. Yet, I continue to follow the path because I am passionate about teaching future generations and guiding them to be outstanding people. Without Senate Bill 859, I will be challenged in finding a way to pay for graduate studies. By not supporting the bill, talented and hardworking Oregon DACA students will have their talents wasted because of the possibility of not affording to attend graduate school.

This is why I support SB859, and encourage this committee to pass it.

Please remember my story when voting on this bill. Thank you for letting me speak with you today.

Sincerely,

Ana Sally Gonzalez Barragan

Western Oregon University

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## OREGON STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The Oregon Student Association (OSA) is a statewide, student-led advocacy and organizing non-profit established in 1975 to represent, serve, and protect the collective interests of students in postsecondary education in Oregon

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