

From the Desk of  
Senator  
James Ivory Manning Jr.



## Oregon Student Association

# Vote YES for Senate Bill 212

To: Oregon's Senate

From: The Oregon Student Association -representing 120,000 students across the public post-secondary education system.

RE: Senate Bill 212

Higher education continues to be costly for Oregon students, often becoming a barrier to completion which can hurt a student's ability to compete in the workforce. This is why a tax deduction for higher education expenses makes sense. The Oregon Student Association encourages the Oregon Senate to vote YES on SB 212, which would allow students to get a refund on college expenses. In the past, Oregon students or their families were able to subtract up to \$4,000 dollars in college tuition on their tax returns both state and Federal. This amount of money has relieved many low-income families from the burden of high cost tuition, housing, textbooks etc. Unfortunately, at the federal level this deduction has been discontinued, which means it is up to the Oregon Legislature to ensure continued access to this common-sense tax provision.

*"I've worked multiple jobs, have loans out, and pay hundreds of dollars a term for textbooks. No longer being able to write off the skyrocketing cost of tuition and textbooks on my taxes doesn't make sense. Restoring this tax deduction for Oregon students and families is the right thing to do, and helps show me that Oregon has my back." -Imani Dorsey, Junior, Internal Vice President Associated Students of the University of Oregon, Oregon Student Association Executive Committee*

Higher education should be accessible and affordable. The ability to deduct education expenses on taxes was an important part of safeguarding the financial health of students which has been taken away. SB 212 would protect Oregon's future by reinstating this benefit on our statewide taxes. Please join us in supporting SB 212.

### OREGON STUDENT ASSOCIATION

635 NE Dekum St, Portland, OR, 97211 | (503) 286-0477 | [www.orstudents.org](http://www.orstudents.org) | [@OregonStudents](https://twitter.com/OregonStudents)

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