

Thank you Chair Alonso León and members of the Education Committee,

My name is Leila Jabara and I am a student at Lane Community College.

I am here to ask you to join our students in supporting HB 2590, the Student Voice Bill.

This bill is all about making sure our colleges and universities work for all students and can help us graduate and get good paying jobs. Right now, our campuses aren't equipped to help everyone succeed. In my experience, international students have very few scholarships and opportunities compared to domestic students. What would help me is scholarships, emergency funds, and jobs that are available for international students. Presenting minority voices and increasing diversity would help continue to allow me to continue studying.

There are many students with many different needs being met. This bill can help change that by creating a special committee to tour our campuses and look at what is working, and what is not working. This process would create an opportunity for students like me to be heard, that's why it is so important that you vote yes.

We really need to get college right in Oregon, because the future of our economy depends on it. The Oregon Employment Department projects that between 2019-2029, occupations that require higher levels of education for entry will grow fastest.

Please remember my story when you vote on this bill, and please join me in supporting HB 2590.

Thank you for your time,
Leila Jabara